

# Jordan Times

An independent newspaper published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
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## Saleh: Army should avoid politics

SANAA (R) — Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh warned the armed forces of his newly unified country Sunday to stay out of politics following reports that former rebels were gaining influence in the ranks. "The leadership will never forgive any activity in the armed forces and security that propagates party work or intrigues upon unity," Radio Sanaa quoted Saleh as saying during inspection visits to military units. Saleh, formerly leader of North Yemen until the two Yemens merged last month, ordered a freeze on army recruitment and promotions on Thursday. Political analysts in Sanaa said he acted after the promotion to colonel of many insurgents who had fought his government from bases in South Yemen before the merger. They said the former rebels of the Nationalist Front planned to form a political party under the new Yemeni constitution. "Hundreds of Nationalist Front members are already senior officers in the army and the security apparatus in the south, and many of them have recently been promoted," one source said.

## Saudi may mediate Euphrates row

ISTANBUL (R) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal arrived in Ankara Sunday with a message that could include an offer to mediate in a dispute over the waters of the Euphrates river. "The letter is primarily a political statement between Turkey and the Kingdom. It may also contain an offer by the Kingdom to act as an intermediary in the water dispute," the official said, giving no further details. Prince Saud was due to leave for Beirut Sunday after meeting President Turgut Ozal. Turkey asked the flow of the river to downstream Syria and Iraq for one month earlier this year. In July 1988, Syria and Iraq protested Turkey's unilateral decision to build a dam on the Euphrates. Negotiations between the three countries are expected to meet in Ankara on June 26 to conclude an agreement on sharing the Euphrates, a major tributary and power lifeline. Foreign Ministry spokesman Murat Samur said Ankara said Turkey was pleased by a statement from Iraqi Oil Minister Hassan Abdol Rahman Al Chakibi that Ankara was not taking the Euphrates issue seriously. The Iraqi weekly Al-Ba'ath's Wednesday edition said Iraq's foreign policy had been made in negotiations on the Euphrates question since 1988.

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## Egypt mediating U.S.-Libya rift

LONDON (R) — A senior Egyptian official was quoted Sunday as saying Egypt was trying to narrow the rift between Libya and the United States. "Egyptian diplomacy is working... on explaining the Libyan position to the U.S. administration... and to facilitate contact between the two sides," Boutros Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, told the London-based Al Sharq Al Awsat. "We hope we can bring their (U.S. and Libya) points of view closer and improve relations between them," Ghali added.

## Iraq extends amnesty for Kurds

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq Sunday decided to extend its three-month-old amnesty for Kurdish exiles one more month in what it called a last chance for the Kurds. Baghdad Radio reported the decision by the Revolutionary Command Council and the Iraqi News Agency said without elaborating that it would be the last chance for exiles to return home.

## Cairo court sentences 2 to death for drugs

CAIRO (R) — An Egyptian court Sunday sentenced a Lebanese and an Egyptian to death for smuggling 250 grammes of heroin into the country.

Lebanese Yehia Mohammed Shabani, 40, and Gaber Hassan, 34, a waiter, were also fined 500,000 pounds (\$187,000). Another court sentenced 12 people to death last month for a similar offence, bringing the number of traffickers on death row to about 40.

## Syrian parliament meets today

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria's newly-elected parliament will hold its first session Monday to choose a speaker, officials said Sunday. All 166 candidates of the National Progressive Front, which groups the ruling Baath and five other parties, won election to the 250-seat parliament last month. Independents increased their representation to 84 seats from 33 in the previous house whose term ended in March. Prime Minister Mahmoud Zuhayr, former Parliamentary Speaker Abdul Qader Qaddoura and Damascus Governor Mohammad Amin Abdulhamat, all Baathists, won seats in the new parliament.

## Hawi returns home

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese President Elias Hawi returned to Beirut Sunday after a North African tour in which he sought support for his government. Hawi visited Egypt, Libya and Tunisia in search of military and financial support to strengthen his army and extend his government's control outside Syrian-held west Beirut. Sources in the president's delegation said Saturday Hawi had failed in efforts to obtain arms during his tour.

## British MPs may visit Iran

LONDON (R) — Four British lawmakers are planning to visit Iran to try to improve relations between London and Tehran, a Sunday newspaper reported. The visit, details of which are not final, has the blessing of the British government, the Sunday Times said. The Sunday Times said the delegation would be made up of the same four members of parliament who went to Tehran in 1988 on a visit sponsored by Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie.

## Civic forum seeks consensus

PRAGUE (R) — The Civic Forum movement looked set Sunday to dominate Czechoslovak politics for at least the next two years but said it preferred to continue tackling the country's problems by consensus. "We think that the future government will be a coalition," was forum leader Jan Urban's reaction to projections of a sweeping election victory that would give the forum up to 170 of the 300 seats in parliament.



CELEBRATIONS: His Majesty King Hussein, Sunday, attend a ceremony at the Martyrs Monument on the occasion of Army Day and Great Arab Revolt Day (see page 3).

## King sees threat of rising extremism with new Israeli coalition

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is currently passing through one of the most dangerous stages of its history because it is confronting serious threats as it struggles to fend off dangers posed to the whole Arab Nation, His Majesty King Hussein said Sunday. Addressing a meeting with French journalists from Agence France Presse (AFP), the King said: "Jordan has been shouldering its national responsibilities over the past years, defending itself from aggression and providing protection for the Arab Order as a whole, but now the Kingdom can no more stand alone in the face of the looming dangers."

The formation of the new hard-line government led by the Likud Party in Israel is bound to lead the whole Middle East region into further extremism and further difficult developments, the King said.

He said Israel had dealt a devastating blow to peace proposals submitted by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and had persistently showed intransigence and refusal to any step that could have led to the start of serious efforts for a lasting and just settlement in the region. Further hardened positions are expected in Israel now with the formation of the new government, which consists of the most extremist elements, the King added.

"Indeed, Israel has used its differences with the United States to divert world attention from the idea of holding an international conference that could have led to peace," the King told the group of AFP correspondents, who have just ended a regional conference in Amman.

Referring to Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine, the King said the Soviet Union was facilitating the immigration process by refraining from issuing emigration visas that would allow them to return to the Soviet Union if they so desired in the future.

"Is there any respect for human rights in forcing citizens to move from one particular place to another specified destination?" the King asked. The King warned of grave consequences of terminating the current dialogue between Washington and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Ending the dialogue, he said, is a step fraught with danger and a move with no justification. The PLO, the King added, has done all it could to reach peace and has received nothing in return for its recognition of Israel, for its renunciation of terrorism and for its acceptance of all peace initiatives.

The message also dealt with American "pressure on the PLO leadership and threats to its dialogue with the organisation."

The Chinese minister reaffirmed his country's firm support for the Palestinian leadership.

Abdul Rahim also informed the Chinese minister of the PLO's plans to call for a meeting of the U.N. General Assembly to endorse a resolution calling for the dispatch of a fact-finding mission to the occupied territories. A similar resolution was vetoed by the U.S. at Security Council last month.

Qin, in a reply message to Arafat handed over to the ambassador, pledged China's total support for whatever measure the Palestinian leadership adopts to face the pressures and threats against the PLO and the Palestinian people.

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## Jordan praises Chinese position

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday voiced Jordan's appreciation of China's continued backing for Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian cause, and praised China's relations with Jordan.

Speaking at a meeting with Chinese Minister of Defence Qin Jiwei and an accompanying delegation, the King reviewed developments in the Middle East and the absence of just peace in the region as a result of Israel's expansionist policies.

Qin presented his good wishes to the King on the occasion of the anniversary of Army Day and Great Arab Revolt Day and said he was impressed by the performance of the Armed Forces of Jordan and the great achievements in Jordan under the leadership of King Hussein.

Qin paid tribute to the King's positive stands vis-a-vis various world issues, including the Palestinian issue.

He conveyed to King Hussein an invitation from the Chinese president and leadership to visit China. King Hussein accepted the invitation and promised to visit China as soon as it is possible.

Attending the audience were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb and China's ambassador to Jordan.

## Qin gets PLO message

Later Sunday, the Chinese minister met with the Palestinian ambassador to Jordan, Al Tayeb Abdul Rahim, who delivered to him a message from PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat on the latest developments in the Middle East and the outcome of the Arab summit held in Baghdad last month.

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His Majesty King Hussein Sunday receives Chinese Defence Minister Qin Jiwei and a delegation accompanying him (Petra photo)

## Israelis beat 68-year-old blind Gazan to death

SHATI CAMP, occupied Gaza Strip (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers beat a blind 68-year-old Palestinian to death when he tried to prevent them from hitting his nine-year-old grandson, his family said Sunday.

The army denied the family's account, claiming that Mohammad Hussein Abu Zenada was untouched and died of a heart attack while troops searched for anti-Israeli activists in the Gaza Strip's Shati refugee camp.

But Rubia Abu Zenada, 63, told Reuters: "I saw my husband being beaten by soldiers and even an officer. I screamed and they locked me in a room... I heard him groaning in pain."

The family said soldiers broke into their home Saturday about 10 p.m. when they began hitting nine-year-old Naim with gun butts. Abu Zenada tried to guard him and was beaten until he died.

"My grandfather fell on his face to the ground," Naim told Reuters. He died before an army medic arrived, the boy said.

Rubia Abu Zenada said the army medic used the Arabic expression "God gave and took" to announce her husband's death.

The army said soldiers went to the house for a search and the old man collapsed and died of heart failure. It would not comment whether the boy was beaten.

Naim said the soldiers wanted him to denounce activists.

Palestinians said about 40 soldiers on a hunt for stone-throwing youths raided many Shati camp homes after dark Saturday. Hospital officials said several residents were treated for injuries suffered in beatings.

Elsewhere in the crowded Gaza Strip, soldiers wounded two people with live ammunition during clashes Sunday, Palestinian sources said.

Vandals smashed more than 70 Jewish graves at a Jewish cemetery on Arah Jerusalem's Mount of Olives, police said Sunday.

The vandals hammered and axed tombs in a section of the graveyard where U.S. Jews are buried, leaving chunks and chips of stone strewn across a large area.

No nationalist Palestinian slogans or anti-Semitic graffiti were scrawled on the graves, but witnesses said the damage was the most serious ever to the cemetery overlooking Jerusalem's walled Old City.

Police said they were questioning the Arab cemetery guard but had not arrested any suspects.

Israel last month jailed a religious Jew for three years after he confessed to desecrating 300 Jewish graves in the northern city of Haifa. He said he did it to unite Israelis against Arab and anti-Semitic threats.

## Israel sends message to Cairo; Al Akhbar hits 'killer cabinet'

CAIRO (Agencies) — Israel assured Egypt Sunday that dialogue is the only way to end the Middle East conflict and said it is committed to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's plan for elections in the occupied territories.

Shimon Shamir, Israel's ambassador to Cairo, told reporters that he conveyed a message with the assurances from Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens to his Egyptian counterpart Esmat Abdul Meguid.

"The Israeli embassy requested this meeting to convey a letter from Foreign Minister Moshe Arens to Minister Abdul Meguid concerning the situation in the Middle East after the Baghdad summit," the ambassador told reporters.

"The only way to end the tension is dialogue and continuing with the peace process as the message says," he said.

"Israel is committed to the May 14, 1989 peace plan proposed by Prime Minister Shamir and to continuing the peace process," he stressed.

Shamir's plan calls for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, to be followed by an interim period and then a final settlement to the conflict. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) rejected the plan and Egypt asked for clarifications.

An Egyptian daily newspaper said Israel had formed a war cabinet of killers and extremists.

"It is a government controlled by hawks, shedders of blood and the most mad extremists who call for war. It is the government to cause regional catastrophes," the mass-circulation Al Akhbar said in its early Sunday edition.

It criticised U.S. President George Bush for saying that the formation of a new government was an internal Israeli matter.

"The policy of this government is not an internal matter. It concerns all those interested in achieving peace in this region," Al Akhbar said.

Egypt has not officially commented on Shamir's success in forming an Israeli government, the most right-wing in the country's 42-year history.

But Al Akhbar said Shamir's government "will put an end to hopes of holding any peace negotiations."

An aide to Shamir Sunday rejected fears that the new government would close the door to peace in the Middle East.

"It's stupid nonsense," media adviser Avi Pazner told Reuters in reply to suggestions that the incoming coalition would be one of the most extreme in Israel's history.

Far-right and religious parties that signed a coalition agreement with Likud Friday demand harsher measures to quash the 30-month-old Palestinian uprising and increased settlement of Jews in the occupied territories.

## American, PLO envoys meet in Tunis

TUNIS (Agencies) — The U.S. ambassador to Tunisia and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) envoy have met as Washington ponders whether to end its dialogue with the PLO because of a guerrilla raid on Israel, the Palestinian news agency Wafa said Sunday.

Ambassador Robert Pelletreau and Hakan Balsoni discussed relations as well as the new Israeli right-wing government at a meeting at PLO headquarters in Tunis Saturday, Wafa said.

Pelletreau and Balsoni, the official contacts between Washington and the PLO, last met June 5.

U.S. President George Bush said Friday the United States was considering cutting off its dialogue with the organisation and called on PLO leader Yasser Arafat to condemn the attempted guerrilla attack.

Washington began talks with the PLO in 1988 after Arafat met

U.S. conditions to renounce terrorism and recognise Israel's right to exist. Israel has urged the United States to break off the contact.

Arafat is resisting U.S. pressure to condemn the attack on an Israeli beach May 30 by the Palestine Liberation Front, a faction of the PLO.

He has disclaimed responsibility for the raid in which four guerrillas were killed and 12 captured.

The PLO has said any moves by Washington to stop talks would encourage Israel to deal more harshly with the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The PLO has described Israel's new government, formed on Friday, as a "war cabinet" which could increase repression against Palestinians.

PLO envoy in Canada  
A senior PLO member has

started a tour of Canada that will include meetings with Jewish businessmen and possibly with Canada's foreign minister.

Bassam Abu Sharif, a special advisor to Arafat, will be asking for increased aid to help rebuild damaged buildings and institutions in the occupied territories, he said at a news conference in Toronto.

"Canada is helping now through U.N. agencies and through non-governmental organisations, but increasing economic and social losses necessitate more," he said.

He also said the new hardline government formed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, the most right-wing in Israeli history, "in the short-term will be an obstacle to peace."

"But sometimes it is the hardliners who can deliver," he added.

A spokesman for the Canadian

department of external affairs said the Palestinian would be meeting members of the department but it was not yet known if Foreign Affairs Minister Joseph Clark would be present.

Abu Sharif, who is barred from entering the United States, and Israeli parliament member Mordechai Virshubski both spoke at the news conference to call for peace in the Middle East, although Virshubski said he could not speak directly to Abu Sharif or shake his hand without running afoul of Israeli law.

Both men said tremendous economic difficulties face Israel as it absorbs thousands of new immigrants from the Soviet Union and Ethiopia.

Virshubski said a majority of Israelis are now ready to make territorial concessions. "There is an awareness we have to come to terms with our neighbours and find a settlement."



## Kuwaitis choose between candidates, boycott call

**KUWAIT (R)** — Amid competing calls from authorities and activists, Kuwaiti men voted Sunday for an interim assembly designed to decide the future of democracy in the tiny, Gulf state.

Opposition activists led by some 30 former deputies have called for the return of the parliament dissolved by the emir in 1986. They have urged a boycott of Sunday's poll, arguing that the proposed assembly will be unconstitutional and toothless.

State-run radio and television and pro-government newspapers appealed to people to vote and radios broadcast patriotic songs. "Do you love Kuwait?" Al Rai Al Aam daily asked readers in a larger-than-normal headline. "Then go to the ballot box and elect your candidate."

The official Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said turnout was high when polling began at 8 a.m. (0500 GMT) at 125 centres, mostly schools.

Journalists touring centres with Information Ministry officials saw several dozen men, mostly elderly, queuing to cast ballots. Women cannot vote.

Supporters of candidates offered mineral water and fruit juice to men as they entered the centres, where campaign posters covered walls and election vehi-

cles. "Keep Kuwait clean," read one uncontroversial appeal on the wall of a school turned into a polling centre near Kuwait City. Dozens of campaign posters were plastered elsewhere.

KUNA said the number of voters began to decrease after 9 a.m. because many had to go to work, but was expected to pick up again in the early evening after the lunchtime siesta.

Temperatures were expected to reach 47 degrees C (116 F). Kuwait's 62,000 male voters are choosing 50 of 348 candidates to be deputies in the National Assembly. The emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, will appoint 25 others.

The government says the four-year assembly is an interim body which will make recommendations in closed sessions to ensure that future relations between parliament and government are healthy. Recommendations will not be binding.

The assembly will be Kuwait's first since the emir dissolved parliament at the height of the Gulf

war, citing a foreign conspiracy to destabilise his country.

The group of former deputies began staging a series of rallies late last year to demand the return of parliament.

Political sources said the cabinet, led by Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, was expected to resign when results were announced late Sunday or early Monday. Voting was due to end at 8 p.m. (1700 GMT).

The sources said a new government, also led by Sheikh Saad, would be formed and sworn in when the new assembly held its inaugural session, which it must do within a month.

"The battle is now over. We have done everything possible to ensure an effective boycott and they (the government) have done their part to persuade people to go," a leading activist said on the eve of the poll.

"We just have to wait and see now."

"They are (the activists) our brothers. We have different views, but that is all," a top government official said. "Look around... you will easily see how democratic this government is."

"It is an excellent turnout so far," said one government official in charge of one of the polling stations.

## Petrovsky in Iraq

**BAGHDAD (AP)** — A senior Soviet envoy is in Baghdad to discuss stalled Iran-Iraq peace talks and the large-scale Jewish emigration to Israel with Iraqi officials and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat, a Soviet diplomat said Sunday.

The envoy, Vladimir Petrovsky, who is deputy foreign minister, arrived overnight and met Sunday with Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Saad Al Faisal, ahead of a planned session with Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, the diplomat said. He requested anonymity.

Apart from the Iran-Iraq conflict and the Jewish emigration, he is expected to brief Iraqi officials and Arafat on the outcome of the superpower summit in the United States earlier this month, the diplomat said.

The diplomat would not say when Petrovsky would meet with Arafat.

The Soviet Union and Arafat reportedly have sought to arrange face-to-face summit talks in Moscow between Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and the Iranian counterpart, Hashemi Rafsanjani, to resolve the 10-year-old dispute between the two Gulf neighbours.

United Nations-sponsored talks were launched in August 1988, after a ceasefire halted eight years of war between Iran and Iraq. But they were quickly deadlocked over the question of prisoners.

Iraq wanted its main outlet to the Gulf, the Shatt Al Arab Waterway, dredged of war debris and reopened to traffic. Iran insisted that Iraq first withdraw its troops from territories occupied in the final stages of the war.

The summit meeting was suggested by Saddam in an exchange of letter with the Iranian leadership in April. Iran has said it preferred that experts meet first to pave the way for a summit.

Iraq has been the PLO's main backer in efforts to curtail the emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel. Arabs fear the Jewish emigrants, expected to reach 750,000 in the next few years, would be settled on occupied Arab territories, further impeding peace efforts.

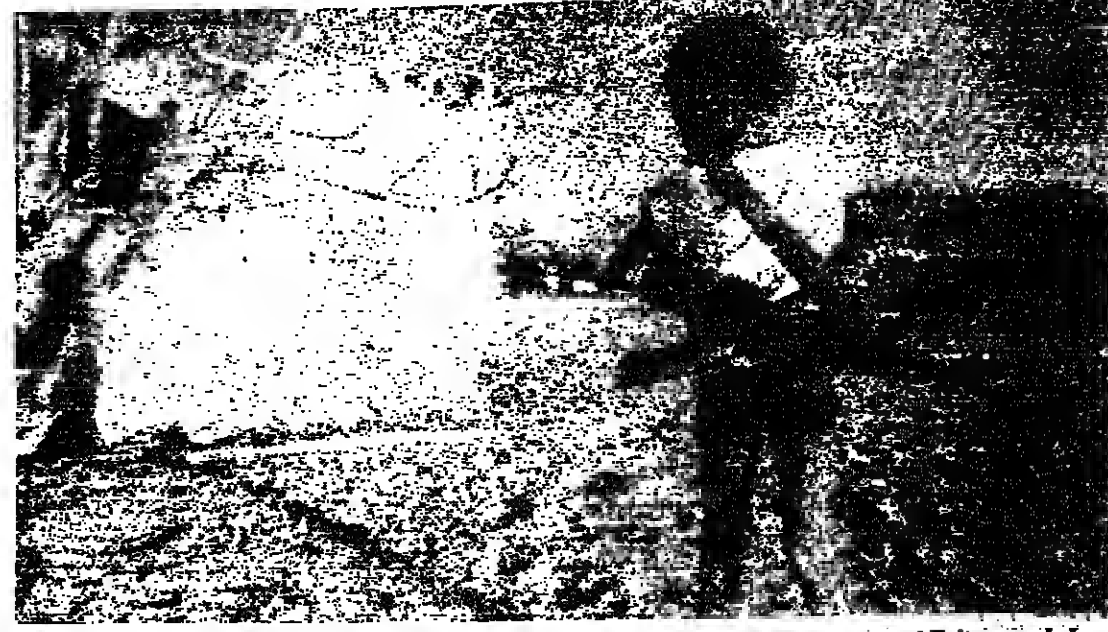
## Ethiopia, Kenya discuss new peace initiative

**NAIROBI (R)** — Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam arrived in Nairobi Sunday for talks with President Daniel Arap Moi expected to focus on a new peace initiative to try to end Ethiopia's long-running civil wars.

Kenyan officials gave no details but the talks follow a call earlier this month for an international peace conference on Ethiopia by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President George Bush.

Western diplomats in Nairobi said Arap Moi's readiness to receive Haile Mariam for their one-day meeting indicated Kenya's support for a fresh effort to halt civil wars raging in Ethiopia's northern provinces of Tigray and Eritrea.

The Ethiopian president, who has welcomed the Bush-Gor-



A child carries a Kalashnikov rifle as the battle rages between Ethiopian troops and Eritrean rebels.

bachev statement made during their summit in Washington, visited the Red Sea Republic of Djibouti last Thursday to brief Djibouti President Hassan Gouled Aptidon on his efforts to end the fighting.

Earlier last week Mengistu announced he would allow U.N. observers to join planned peace

talks with the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), which has been fighting for the independence of Eritrea for the past 29 years.

The move met an EPLF demand which led to deadlock in the talks, staged last year by Kenya and chaired by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

The Ethiopian embassy in Nairobi placed large advertisements in local Sunday newspapers, saying the government had taken steps to revive the negotiations with the EPLF. Ethiopia is also fighting against rebels in Tigray, adjacent to Eritrea, who want to oust Mengistu's government.

## Algerian elections mark end of one-party rule

**ALGIERS (R)** — Algeria's first free elections Tuesday mark the end of 28 years of one-party rule by the National Liberation Front (FLN) with Muslim fundamentalists poised to emerge as the biggest opposition party.

Government and diplomatic analysts expect the FLN to win its first electoral test, for municipal and provincial councils, since it led the country to independence from France in 1962.

But the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), independents and a party led by ethnic Berbers and certain to grab at least some of the country's 1,500 municipal councils.

FIS spokesman Abbasi Madani claimed 75 per cent of the vote at the close of the campaign last week and warned that anything less might constitute fraud. "Even drunks will vote for us," said the fiery fundamentalist preacher Ali Benhadj to chants of "jihad" (holy war) at a mass rally last Monday attended by more than 60,000 bearded young supporters.

There have been no national opinion polls but diplomats and officials give the FIS anywhere from six to 30 per cent of the popular vote.

The government has vowed to be fair and promised that observers from all 10 opposition parties and hundreds of independent lists will supervise voting and counting.

"The FLN will control the overwhelming majority of mun-

icipalities," predicted one government analyst. "It is highly probable they will control all of the provincial governments."

Abstention rates are widely expected to be high as voters question how multi-party democracy, launched by President Chadli Benjedid after October 1988 youth riots, will help them overcome pressing economic problems.

An economic recovery programme has so far made little headway in tackling inflation of 30 per cent a year, unemployment of more than 20 per cent and a housing crisis.

Two opposition parties linked to historic FLN figures, revolutionary war hero Hocine Ait Ahmed's Socialist Forces Front and the Movement for Democracy in Algeria of former President Ahmed Ben Bella, have urged a boycott.

They say the FLN has an unfair edge because of its giant budget and control of most media, and legislative elections should come first.

A coalition of pro-democracy intellectuals and human rights activists appealed in the press Sunday for a high turnout, saying the future of democracy was at stake.

"For the first time in its history the Algerian people can freely choose their representatives to elected assemblies," the statement said.

"Citizens should celebrate this great achievement with a massive participation in the June 12 poll



to show their adherence to the democratic ideal."

Despite the economic crisis, charges of corruption and brutal army repression of the 1988 riots the FLN retains strong support particularly in the rural Algerian heartland.

Old guard FLN leaders linked to former President Houari Boumedienne led a fiery nationalist campaign that played on patriotic sentiment and fear of

the FIS, which wants to set up an Islamic republic.

"If the FIS takes power we will revert to one-party rule," Noureddine Djelloul, FLN coordinator in the eastern city of Constantine, told Reuters last week. "The democratic process cannot reach fruition except through FLN leadership."

The FLN is expected to retain the loyalty of tribal chiefs and local notables.

## SLA captures 3 Palestinian commandos

**RASHAYA, Lebanon (R)** — An Israeli-run radio station said Sunday three Palestinian guerrillas captured by pro-Israeli militiamen in a border strip in South Lebanon came from PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's Fateh group.

The Voice of the South, monitored in the southern town of Rashaya, said militiamen of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) caught the three Palestinians near an arms depot containing machine guns, rocket-propelled grenades and hand grenades.

It said the militiamen, patrolling Israel's self-declared "security zone," spotted the fighters near the village of Taybeh, 5 kilometres north of the Israeli border and captured them.

On Saturday, Israeli military sources said the SLA had captured three armed Palestinians three kilometres from an Israeli settlement but did not specify their affiliation.

Fateh, the mainstream movement in the PLO, has not launched armed attacks against the Jewish state since Arafat renounced terrorism in 1988. This was the United States' main condition for it to start direct talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Israel set up the buffer zone, a 15-kilometre wide strip to protect its northern border from Palestinian and Lebanese guerrilla attacks. It is patrolled by Israeli troops and SLA militiamen.

Fateh's senior political official in Lebanon Zaid Wehbeh, speak-

ing in the southern port town of Sidon where Fateh has its main bases in Lebanon, said the expected rise in armed attacks against Israeli military targets was in response to the new right-wing government in Israel.

"This escalation of military operations will target Israeli soldiers who are killing our women and children. We have the right to confront all these acts through military means inside (Israel) as well as outside," he said.

"The Israeli government formed by (Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir should expect more military operations," he added. "The United States, which is standing by Israel, should be held responsible for this escalation as well as the Israeli cabinet of war."

## Najibullah will not step down — Kabul

**KABUL (R)** — Afghanistan Sunday rejected U.S. suggestions that President Najibullah step down ahead of proposed elections to end the 12-year civil war.

Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil said Najibullah's continuance in power was not negotiable and "the United States and Soviet Union have no choice but to accept the realities of the situation."

"Any suggestion that President Najibullah should step down is non-negotiable," he told Reuters in an interview.

The U.S. backs elections but wants Najibullah to quit long before they are held and hand over to an interim government. Diplomats said if the U.S. and Kabul stuck to their positions a breakthrough was not possible.

Wakil said Moscow agreed that Najibullah should remain in power during the transition period between negotiations and elections.

In answer to a question he said it was up to Najibullah to decide whether or not to take part in elections. This was his right and

Washington and Moscow could not interfere in his decision.

Wakil said that at the recent U.S.-Soviet summit presidents George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev agreed a political solution was the only way to settle the Afghan problem.

There were "some differences on the mechanism of the transition period leading to general elections," but "I am hopeful the closeness in the position of the two superpowers will help in the political settlement of the Afghan problem," he said.

## Jibril planning attacks on Soviet immigrants

**LONDON (AP)** — Radical Palestinian leader Ahmad Jibril was quoted as saying Sunday that he and his followers are planning attacks against Soviet Jews emigrating to Israel.

Jibril, a former Syrian army captain, heads the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

The Independent on Sunday newspaper said it interviewed Jibril at a hotel in Tehran last week. "If we are satisfied that the United States will continue helping Israel financially and in all other ways to continue the immigration (of Soviet Jews), then we will use every possible means we can, including the armed struggle, to stop this immigration," Jibril was quoted as saying.

The Independent on Sunday said that when asked what he planned to do about them, Jibril said:

"We are using diplomatic and political efforts, but when we feel we cannot make any progress in this manner we will try to find another way."

## Riyadh urges Thais to reveal foreign power behind killings

**NICOSIA (R)** — Saudi Arabia has said the Thai authorities had established that a foreign power was behind the killing of Saudi diplomats in Bangkok and urged them to reveal who it was.

A Foreign Ministry statement carried by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) called on the Thai government to "arrest all those involved in the crime, bring them to justice and disclose the foreign party that stands behind these incidents as soon as possible."

Thai police said in March they had arrested a Thai Muslim suspected of involvement in the murder of three Saudi diplomats in Bangkok on Feb. 1 and were

tracking other suspects.

Another Saudi embassy official was shot dead in Bangkok in January last year, and a Saudi businessman disappeared from the Thai capital days after the killings in February. Nothing has been heard of him since.

SPA, received in Cyprus, quoted a Foreign Ministry official as saying the Saudi government had closely followed the Thai investigation into the murders.

"Information provided by the Thai authorities has proven that the security forces were able to identify the assailants and arrest some of them," he said, adding that the information also showed

a foreign power was involved.

Thai police have said the killings were linked either to international terrorism or a dispute over the lucrative business of supplying Thai workers to the Middle East.

The killings were the latest in a series of attacks on Saudi diplomats abroad over the last four years. Western diplomats based in the Gulf have suggested Iran could be involved in at least some of them.

Saudi Arabia cut diplomatic relations with Iran in 1988, citing its "hostile attitude." Iranians on pilgrimage to Mecca in 1987 sparked riots.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

### PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 ..... Koran  
15:40 ..... Programme review  
15:45 ..... Children programmes  
16:00 ..... World Cup  
16:15 ..... Programme review  
16:30 ..... News in Arabic  
16:35 ..... Arabic series  
16:40 ..... Local programmes  
16:45 ..... News summary in Arabic

### PROGRAMME TWO

18:05 ..... Documentary  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Weekly Sport magazine  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
19:45 ..... Varieties  
20:30 ..... Perfect Strangers  
21:10 ..... Blind Faith  
21:45 ..... News in English  
22:00 ..... World Cup: England vs. Ireland

### PRAYER TIMES

03:50 ..... Fajr  
05:25 ..... Sunrise/Duha  
12:35 ..... Dhuhr  
16:16 ..... Asr  
19:45 ..... Maghreb  
21:20 ..... Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifeth  
Tel. 810740

### Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 637875

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.

De la Saile Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 623366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.  
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 771331.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 771331.

Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751.  
Assuan International Church Tel. 683326.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811225.  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932.

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Temperatures will be around the annual average and winds will be northerly moderate. In Aqaba, it will be dusty with northerly fresh wind and calm sea.

Min./max. temp.  
Amman ..... 18 / 32  
Aqaba ..... 23 / 38  
Deserts ..... 18 / 36

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Salah A. Tassou ..... 649028  
Dr. Mufed Tannous ..... 844480  
Dr. Abdul Qader Al Lala ..... 696048  
First pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdows pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asena pharmacy ..... 637055  
Naroukh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Selen pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmeisani pharmacy ..... 637660

### IBRD:

Dr. Nabil Abul Ola ..... (—)  
Al Shura'a pharmacy ..... 985238

### ZARQA:

Dr. Jibad Mideh ..... (—)  
Khaliq pharmacy ..... 985417

### Jordan Valley

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 34, Aqaba 39. Humidity readings: Amman 20 per cent, Aqaba 18 per cent.

### EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate ..... 630341  
Rescue ..... 630341

Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 891228  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402

Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 630321  
Hotel Complaints ..... 609800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage ..... 897467

Complaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality ..... 787111  
Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone ..... 623101  
Repairs ..... 623101  
Abdullah Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information ..... 08-53200

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

18:00 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
18:20 ..... Dhahran (RJ)  
18:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
18:30 ..... Kuwait (RJ)  
18:30 ..... Larana (RJ)  
18:45 ..... Sanaa, Jeddah (RJ)  
18:50 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
19:00 ..... Casablanca (RJ)  
19:25 ..... Tunis (add.) (RJ)  
19:45 ..... Ankara, Istanbul (RJ)  
19:50 ..... London (RJ)  
19:50 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  
20:00 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
20:00 ..... Jeddah (add.) (RJ)  
20:00 ..... Kuwait (RJ)  
20:00 ..... Jeddah (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:15 ..... Beirut (ME)  
11:00 ..... Baghdad (IA)  
11:00 ..... Frankfurt (LH)  
13:00 ..... Bucharest (RO)

### HOSPITALS

Queen Alia Intl. Airport ..... 08-53200

AMMAN:  
Hussain Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ..... 644281/6  
Akaleh Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642441/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362

Mahass, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shmeisani ..... 661711/4  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845845  
Al-Muhsar Hospital ..... 667277/9  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/37

Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Italian, Al-Muhajreen ..... 77101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 775112/6  
Army, Marka ..... 891611/5  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 602340/50  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155

ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)91071  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732

### IBRD:

Princess Basma Hospital ..... (02)275555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02)272275  
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital ..... (02)247100  
AQABA:  
Jabal Amman ..... (03)314111  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple ..... 550 / 525  
Banana ..... 500 / 450  
Banana (Mukammal) ..... 450 / 400  
Beans ..... 350 / 300  
Broad beans ..... 350 / 300  
Cabbage ..... 120 / 80  
Carrot ..... 220 / 180  
Cauliflower ..... 160 / 100  
Cauliflowers (large) ..... 170 / 120  
Cucumbers (small) ..... 280 / 240  
Dates ..... 400 / 300  
Eggplant ..... 240 / 190  
Garlic ..... 420 / 380  
Lemon ..... 1100 / 900  
Mallow ..... 180 / 120  
Marrow (large) ..... 120 / 80  
Marrow (small) ..... 250 / 220  
Onion (dry) ..... 170 / 120  
Onion (green) ..... 300 / 150  
Orange ..... 380 / 340  
Peas ..... 800 / 700  
Pepper (hot) ..... 280 / 240  
Pepper (sweet) ..... 320 / 280  
Potato ..... 300 / 250  
Radish ..... 150 / 100  
Sage ..... 500 / 400  
Tomatoes ..... 130 / 80  
Watermelon ..... 200 / 180

### DEPARTURES

### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

11:00 ..... Tunis (add.) (RJ)  
12:00 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
12:00 ..... Ankara, Istanbul (RJ)  
12:30 ..... Amsterdam, New York, Montreal (RJ)  
13:15 ..... Frankfurt (RJ)  
13:15 ..... Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)  
13:30 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
13:45 ..... Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
14:00 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  
14:15 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
14:30 ..... Jeddah (add.) (RJ)  
14:45 ..... Dubai, Muscat (RJ)  
14:50 ..... Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
15:00 ..... Jeddah (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:15 ..... Beirut (ME)  
11:00 ..... Baghdad (IA)  
11:00 ..... Frankfurt (LH)  
13:00 ..... Bucharest (RO)



## Princess Basma opens ACC scouts forum

**AMMAN (Petra) —** Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, president of the Scout and Girl Guides of Jordan, today opened the first scout forum of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) at the Amman National Park permanent scouting camp.

Taking part in the five-day event are 85 scouts from Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and Yemen — the four ACC member states.

The forum's programme includes field visits to sites linked historically with the Great Arab Revolt and to military and tourist sites throughout the Kingdom.

Addressing the gathering, Hassan Thubiani, director of the forum and the association's secretary-general, said that the gathering comes to mark the Great Arab Revolt which has started from Mecca plans to revive hopes and renew resolve to achieve a decent life for the whole Arab Nation.

Thubiani voiced his appreciation to the scouting movements in the ACC countries which have responded positively and have demonstrated their willingness to make this gathering a success.

The opening ceremony was attended by Education Minister Mohammad Hamdan, Mu'ta University President Awad Khleifat, Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin, directors of education departments at the Ministry of Education and senior ACC diplomats in Amman.

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AMMAN (Petra) — The four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries Sunday announced the creation of four specialised committees to help coordinate matters related to medical and health cooperation.

The committees were set up by secretaries-general of the health ministries in Jordan, Iraq, Yemen and Egypt upon the conclusion of their meeting here in which they discussed, among other things, ways to unify medical systems in the four countries and the implementation of an ACC agreement in health affairs signed earlier by their ministers.

According to the announcement, the four committees are:

- 1 — A committee on health legislation and health policies which will meet by the middle of September. Its rapporteur is Iraqi.
- 2 — Health services committee which will hold a meeting in August. Its rapporteur is Jordanian.
- 3 — A committee on developing human resources which will hold a meeting in November. Its rapporteur is Yemeni.
- 4 — A committee on medicine affairs which will meet in October. Its rapporteur will be Egyptian.

The four officials also announced that they had prepared an agenda for their ministers' meeting which will open in Amman on June 18.

According to Dr. Adnanan Abbasi, the Health Ministry's secretary-general, the meeting was characterised by a brotherly atmosphere and the four officials endorsed recommendations by the food industries and drug committees.

The meeting, he added exchanged views about ACC cooperation in joint research work, in drug production and in nursing.

## Vehicle licensing facilitated

**AMMAN (Petra)** — Car owners can from now on get a renewal for their driving licences or new car licences at any branch of the drivers and cars licensing departments around the country and there will be no need for referring to the original centre which issued the licence the first time, according to an announcement by the Public Security Department (PSD) Sunday.

The announcement said that by facsimile any of the branches can obtain information about the at the Marka centre, the announcement added.

It said that cars that do not have to undergo technical tests, normally because they are new, can obtain a renewed licence immediately after the information through the facsimile has been sent to the branch.

Previously owners of cars that did not have to undergo technical tests used to obtain a renewed licence by mail.

According to the announce-

**AMMAJ (Petra)** — The Housing Corporation has started distributing forms for subscription to the provident fund which qualifies participants to benefit from the new housing project to be carried out in Salt.

A subscriber can qualify for benefit from Salt project after paying an initial amount ranging between 200 and 240 dinars to the provident fund.

After the downpayment, subscribers have to pay a monthly installment ranging between JD 25 and 30.

Jordanians of 21 years of age and above, who are not in possession of a house or apartment or who have not benefited from a housing scheme and who have limited income, can benefit from the new housing project which will be constructed on a 75 dunum plot of land located in the western part of Salt.

**AMMAN (Petra) —** His Majesty King Hussein, the supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces Sunday attended a ceremony marking the 10th anniversary of the formation of the Jordanian Armed Forces at Al Hussein Youth City to mark the anniversary of the army and Great Arah Revolt.

King Hussein visited the Martyr's Monument and inspected items which relate the story of the Armed Forces and the Great Arah Revolt; the King watered the olive tree in the yard.

King Hussein later presented medals to a group of army officers representing various formations and divisions.

Attending the ceremony with King Hussein were Prime Minister Mudar Badran, speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's political advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, the army chief of staff and the director of the Public Security Department.

At a reception held at Al Hussein Youth City the prime minister, senior officials, high ranking army officers and heads of tribes and representatives of public and private organisations offered King Hussein best wishes on the occasion.



**His Majesty King Hussein Sunday presents a medal to an Armed Forces officer on the occasion of the Army Day and Great Arab Revolt anniversary (Yusef Al 'Allan)**

Later King Hussein and invited guests attended a lunch hosted by Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abn Taleb. China's Defence Minister Qin Jiwei and his accompanying delegation attended the lunch.

**By Joumana Halasa**  
*Special to the Jordan Times*

**AMMAN** — Police are investigating the mysterious murder of a Jordanian businessman whose body was found in the burnt-out shell of his car in the desert outside Amman late last month, but have come up with little material clues, according to police sources.

A senior police source confirmed that security forces are looking for a man who had worked for the victim as "material witness" to the crime.

The body of Mohammad Waleed Suanoorot, a furniture dealer in his early forties, was found at Daba, 40 kilometres south of Amman, in the morning of May 28, after a local resident reported the discovery of a burnt-out car about 60 metres from his mother's home, according to police reports made available to the Jordan Times.

The reports quoted the mother, apparently the only witness to the burning of the Mercedes 200, as saying that two cars had driven up to the

desert the previous day and one of them sped away after a while.

"I saw two cars entering the area from the desert highway at two in the afternoon," the woman's statement to police said. "They stopped for a while. Then one of the cars left the area at a very high speed, while the other car remained."

According to the testimony,

The woman heard an explosion (apparently the burst of the gas tank of the car) and noticed a fire. Fearing that her storage room, which was full of hay for her farm animals, was ablaze she ventured out to investigate and found that it was the car, according to the statement. "I was too scared to report it," the woman told police.

The incident was not reported until the second day, when the woman's son visited her, and she informed him of what had happened the day before. The son verified the story and established the presence of the burned car, and informed police.

Subsequent police examinations found that the trunk of car contained charred parts of

a human body, including the skull and feet, police sources said. It was also found that the body was decapitated before it was left to burn in the car which also showed trace of an excessive quantity of gasoline.

It was not immediately possible then to identify the body, which was burned beyond recognition, and there were no identification documents to be found. Police traced the ownership of the car and reached the Sunnecrot family and found that the head of the family was missing since noon the previous day.

According to the source, Sunnecrot, a resident of the Shmeisani area of Amman, was supposed to have picked up his children from school but did not turn up to do so.

Also missing was one of his employees who was believed to have accompanied Sunnecrot from his office. Police immediately launched a thorough search for the employee and the border posts and airport were alerted, the police source said.

Police reports say that in all probability the actual murder

appears to have been committed some place other than where the car was stung, and the woman's testimony that she had seen two cars driving up to near her house has established that at least two people were involved in the crime, the source said.

Police also have "reasons to believe" that the second car involved is an American-made beige and white car and are looking to locate the vehicle, the source said.

Legal sources said Sunnucroft, a successful businessman, did not appear to have any record of enmity with anyone. One of the early theories advanced was that Sunnucroft had withdrawn a large amount of money from the bank on the day he went missing, but police reports contain no reference to robbery as the motive for the crime.

"The crucial witness to the crime could be the missing employee," said the police source, speaking to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity. "It is doubtful that we can really get to the bottom of the case without him."

At the same time, police also do not rule out the possibility that the disappearance of the employee may have no linkage to the murder of their boss, since stranger things are known to happen," said the police source.

## Writers to mark Army Day

**AMMAN (Petra) —** The Jordanian Writers Federation Monday marks the Great Arab Revolt and the Army Day by holding a special cultural festival under the patronage of Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.

## Jordan, Egypt review cooperation

CAIRO (Petra) — Information-Ministry Secretary-General Trad Al Fayed Sunday met with Egyptian television, and radio programme producers and reviewed with them scopes of cooperation in the information field. Fayed also visited several technical sections at the radio and television corporations.

## Unionists visit Karameh monument

**SOUTH SHUNEH (Petra)** — Presidents and union leaders of the professional associations Sunday visited the martyrs' monument in Karameh and laid flower wreaths on the monument. President of Jordan Doctors Association Mamdouh Al Abbadi delivered a speech at the site in which he hailed the soldiers of the Armed Forces.

## Dermatologists plan scientific day

**AMMAN (I.T.)**—The Dermatology Department of the school of medicine at the Jordan University Hospital is organising a "scientific day" on Wednesday, June 13, with the aim of improving the standards of Jordanian doctors, organisers said Sunday. Events planned for the day include presentation of cases, seminars in dermatology—the science of skin diseases, said a spokesman for the organisers. The presentations will be held at the Dermatology Department at the Jordan University Hospital between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.; and all doctors interested in the subject are welcome, the spokesman added.

*The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.*

## EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of paintings depicting the Jordanian environment by Adel Al Sharara, Mohammad Assad and Hani Khazza'leh at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by Rafiq Al Laham at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition entitled "La revolution: 200 ans apres" at the French Cultural Centre.

## FILM

- ★ French film entitled "Quatre aventures de Reinette et Mirabelle" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

**TURKISH FILM WEEK**

- ★ Feature film entitled "Wife as Gramophone" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

**جبل الورد - مخيم الوقف المثلث**  
تليفون : ٦٤٧٨٦ - ٦٤٧٨٧  
مخيم الجبل - مخيم ٨ - ٥



**At Hayyat** the healthy refreshing drink from Karoline

## To All Soccer Fan's



**Come to Abu Nawas Lounge where  
you can watch the exciting action of**

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**Refreshments and snacks are available at special prices.**

**Half Time Mellow Down** to the sounds of  
our Piano singer

**Gary Denton**


**Trusthouse Forte**



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.  
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## 'Crazies' at the door

THE CHIEF objective of the new Israeli government will be to speed up immigration from the Soviet Union and provide for the quick and successful absorption of immigrants, according to guidelines released and published in Israel over the past two days. The guidelines refer in general terms to "bolstering (Jewish) settlements (in the occupied Arab territories)," but they are unequivocal in stressing that "the eternal right of the Jewish people to Eretz Yisrael is indisputable." For those who do not know, Eretz Yisrael means "Greater Israel" which is built on the whole of Palestine, including the occupied territories and probably even the whole area from the Nile to the Euphrates.

In its reaction to the formation of the new Shamiri coalition, Israel's Labour Party stops at saying it is "a government of national disaster," leaving it up to the Citizens' Rights Movement to predict that the new regime would either bring "a terrible new war (to the region)" or "cause public opinion to wake up to the true nature of the right wing" — the only question being "which will come first."

Being a coalition of ultra-nationalistic groups and religious zealots, with Shamir to the left of everybody else in his cabinet, the new Israeli government has been called many other names as well. "Right-wing crazies"; "killers"; "war-mongers"; are but a few labels that have been used to describe members of the government by people inside and outside Israel recently.

With this background information on the make-up of the new Israeli coalition, there is very little that we Arabs can add, in words and descriptions, to what is already being said.

This is no time for uttering words and issuing statements, however. The threat of rising extremism and the imminence of Zionist aggression with the new developments in Israel is so serious that the Arab World cannot afford to wait a minute longer without being prepared for the worst scenario to happen in the Middle East.

We are not talking only about retardation in peace efforts, and more obstacles being erected in the path of achieving an Arab-Israeli settlement. We can see the real danger of a new war breaking out in the area, started no less by the effective implementation of the new Israeli government's declared programme.

It is a bad joke alright for the Israelis to have such a regime. But the prospect of having Sharon and Eitan and people like them taking the helm of Israeli politics is no joke at all for our people under occupation and the rest of us in the Arab World.

It still is likely that the new Shamiri coalition may never actually see the light of day, given the experience of Shimon Peres with his vote of confidence in the Knesset six weeks ago. But no-one should sit on his laurels, hoping that Shamir will face the same kind of fate today. The fact that the "crazies" have come so far, and that they might be in office in a few hours' time, says a lot about the real danger that we face.

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

THERE IS nothing surprising about the nature of the new Israeli government since extremism has always characterised the Jewish state under Labour, Likud or both together. Al Ra'i said Sunday. Since its creation, Israel has been the model of extremism although it sometimes resorted to the game of "doves and hawks" with which it hoped to deceive the world and to reflect a false pretence that there is real opposition and moderation, said the paper. Of course, under the new rightist government Israel is bound to expose further images of extremism and open policies for expansion and colonisation, but the picture will remain the same about Israel, which is steered by world Zionism, the paper noted. The paper urged the Arab countries to rule out any possible moderation on the part of Israel and to start to prepare themselves to confront Zionist extremism. The Arabs have only one alternative: To build their intrinsic force to impose respect for them on the Israelis and their allies, and they have to confront Israel through continued struggle and serious efforts, said the paper.

A columnist in Al Ra'i criticised government departments trying to set their offices within the residential areas of the capital. Salah Abdul Samad says that the Finance Ministry is trying to set up its headquarters in Abdoun, the Civil Service Commission was earlier established in Shmeisani, the Social Security Corporation lies at Al Hussein Housing Estate and the Ministry of Youth is located near Al Ra'i office. This shows a tendency on the part of the government to establish its offices within residential areas, thus causing much inconvenience to the residents around those buildings in view of the numerous cars and people calling at them on a daily basis, the writer said. The concerned authorities should follow the example of many world capitals by assigning certain areas for government offices, thus avoiding noise and trouble for the residents and facilitating access to them," he said.

The anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt this year coincides with increased dangers confronting the Arabs and comes at a time when the enemies of the Arabs are escalating their conspiracies and posing greater challenge to the Arab Nation. Sawt Al Shaab said. The paper said that since 1916, when the Great Arab Revolt began, the Arabs have been facing immense challenges as they struggled for unity and independence. Since 1916, the Arabs have been facing conspiracies, and Israel's aggression and continued threats against their existence, the paper added. The Hashemites have succeeded in protecting a great part of the Arab World and those who inherited the trust are continuing their struggle in true commitment to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt, the paper said.

## WEEKLY POLITICAL PULSE

# Germans taking a closer look at reunification

By Walced Sadi

CANVASSING the political scene in West Germany in a matter of a week or so is an impossible mission. Yet, thanks to a concentrated programme, that I religiously pursued during my last week's visit to that country. It got closer to the pulse of the German nation more than by reaching through all the periodicals and journals that one can possibly have. What astonished me first of all is the lukewarm support and subdued enthusiasm for the issue of German unification across the political spectrum. I often found myself while talking with various Germans of all walks of life in the uneasy position of being more emotionally enthusiastic about German unity than most Germans that I came across. It seems that the euphoria for unity generated first by the flood of East Germans pouring into West Germany and which culminated in the tumbling down of the Berlin Wall has since given way to rationalism and cool-headed calculations and appraisals. In other words, while the quest and support for unity is still there and reasonably vibrant among most Germans, it is being pursued with less euphoric excitement than before. Perhaps this is typical of German people who in the final analysis are cool-headed people prone to think with their hearts than with their heads — albeit during the Nazi era, they performed differently.

I was fortunate enough to discuss Germany's unity with the four principal German parties, namely, the Christian Democrats, the Social Democrats, the Liberals and finally the Green party. As I took stock of my meetings with some of the executives of the first three parties, i.e., the Christian Democrats, the Social Democrats, and the Liberals, I became readily impressed with the common denominator that unites all three parties on the historic need to unify their country. The streak of commonality in their collective views on the basics of unification was most enlightening. All three parties are not only fully aware of the issues and implications of unifications but also appreciative of the need to proceed with caution albeit at different speeds.

Of the three principal parties, the Liberals are the most enthusiastic about unity in principle and about the pace of affecting it. Yet, even the Liberals realise fully that unification will have a cost and incur repercussions on many levels including economic, social and political ones. The Liberals also recognise that there will be a need for a period of adjustment that the entire country would have to undertake sooner or later. Yet unity per se, for them, overrides all other considerations of the three main political parties in West Germany, the Social Democrats are the most concerned about the price tag of unifications and would want therefore, to know the price that Germans will have to take to achieve their unity. They dismiss charges that they are not supporters of German unification as ludicrous. Their main concern is to get acquainted with what Germans have to pay for this unity in terms of extra taxes, overriding existing rights that East Germans have acquired throughout the years under the socialist order and the political repercussions of unifications. In short the Social Democrats seek unity but would rather go at it slowly and with one step at a time. They also remind observers that West Germany is not going to be that stronger by adding some 16 million East Germans to the German nation which is constituted of some 60 millions already. Besides the economy in East Germany, it is pointed out, is in such shambles that for many years to come the East German economy will be a heavy burden to the German economy and not an augmentation or a boost that can be cherished with euphoria. The figure of 30 billion German marks is mentioned as only budget subsidies to East Germany over the next two to three years. In addition the bureaucracy in East Germany is so cumbersome that it would take years to rectify and streamline it on Western standards. An example of this colossal bureaucracy is the number of East German diplomats who number three times their counterparts in West Germany at a time when the population of West Germany is nearly four times as much as that of East Germany. The trouble is compounded by the fact that many East Germans have acquired subsidised legal and economic rights

under the old order that it would not be easy, juridically speaking, to supercede them with new or lesser rights that are not subsidised. Sandwiched between the two positions is the stance of the Christian Democrats who strive for German unity at full prudent speed yet not at a precipitous one. At the outset the Christian Democrats dismiss outright the suggestion that they are capitalising on the unity issue for political ends. In this context they cite verse and Bible to support the thesis that Chancellor Helmut Kohl has not benefitted at all from the unity issue, a charge often heard from the Social Democrat quarters. The Christian Democrats, like the Liberals, view the opportunity to unite Germany as a historic one and that irrespective of the price it must be pursued.

With regard to the international repercussions of German unification, while the three principal parties recognise the Soviet concerns and express a willingness to deal with it to the Soviet satisfaction. They believe that the Soviet factor is not really a formidable one. The three parties have sensed that the final Soviet position on German unification is still in a state of flux and, marked by flexibility. More or less one gets the impression that the three German parties believe that Moscow's opposition to German participation in NATO is not the really the last word from the Soviet Union. In this vein, it is pointed out of all the

Western countries, France is the most enthusiastic about full German participation in NATO as a way of containing united Germany. Even Washington's last word on German's role in NATO has yet to be spelled out as it too is still gauging the implications of German unity under the influence of many pressure groups notably the Jewish one.

The Green party, on the other hand, does not hide its reluctance to support swift German unification but views such a perspective now as obsolete in view of the fact that their opposition is overtaken by the overwhelming German decision to unify their country come what may. The Greens therefore seek only to slow down the process not to prevent it. Besides, their political clout has diminished lately anyway and any outright swimming against the current is viewed as bad politics. In talking with the Greens, I was astonished to hear also that they too have their "fundamental" syndrome which is fighting a silent battle with the reformed Greens over whether the party should transcend their traditional boundary of concern over environmental issues to other social and political issues. Thus on the issue of German unification the influence of the Green party is marginal for all intents and purposes. And as long as they are losing ground in German elections and continue to be locked in an inner battle, the voice of the Greens on how to proceed with the unity question would indeed remain negligible.

The outcome of my brief sojourn to Germany was to shatter my earlier confirmed belief that unlike other peoples of the earth especially Jordanians, the German people are one homogeneous people united in purpose and ideology. My trip to that country made clear to me that the Germans are like all other peoples of the earth including Jordanians who have their own brand of inner divisions and even prejudices. For example the northerners in Germany view themselves as different from the southerners and point to their superior accent and quality of life to prove their point. The Germans reminded me of my own people pointed out to me that the German accent that we are hearing from the next group of German sitting across from us in the coffee shop is so distinguishable that it would be easy to tell that they come from Berlin or Bonn! The moral of the German trip is that people are people no matter where one goes.

Still there is something that is special about the Germans: They are kind, gentle and friendly people. Most impressive about them is that they are not intoxicated by the rediscovery of their strength and are not flag-hoisting people bragging about the rise of new united Germany. I felt confident that the Germans of today are modest people who just want to live freely and enjoy their economic strength rather than their political or military ones.

# India's V.P. Singh still an enigma after six months

By Bill Tarrant  
Reuters

NEW DELHI — Six months after becoming prime minister of the world's largest democracy Vishwanath Pratap Singh appears a mystifying hamlet-like figure — solitary, indecisive and nearly inscrutable.

He took office in December after running a populist campaign that inflicted a stunning election defeat on Rajiv Gandhi and India's long-ruling Congress Party.

Singh said then he had never wanted the job. This week he seemed to be saying it again.

"If V.P. Singh goes the heavens won't fall," he told reporters on a flight back from Kuala Lumpur where he had attended a summit of developing nations.

Singh said he was in favour of creating a national government of all political parties if they could reach a consensus on the major issues.

"It is only in the event of either war or a most grave national crisis that one starts exploring the possibility of a national government," a Western diplomat said.

"It is a measure of Singh's despair or courage to broach the idea now."

Others said the proposal, roundly rejected by his own party as well as by the opposition, was vintage V.P. Singh — taking a proposal by his critics and making it his own.

Singh, 59, who often says politics is the "art of managing contradictions," faces a variety of grave and complex issues from an inherently weak position.

He heads a minority government that survives only with the parliamentary support of two groups that detest each other — the Hindu revivalist Bharatiya Janata Party on the right and avowedly secular Communist parties on the left.

Singh's Janata Dal party, which he formed two years ago, is an amalgam of socialists, peasants, landed gentry and former Congress Party members whose leaders distrust each other.

A Muslim campaign against Indian rule in the northern state of Jammu and Kashmir has erupted into full-blown revolt.

The uprising has brought India and Pakistan to the brink of war, with Islamabad denying Delhi's accusations that it is arming and training Kashmiri militants. India and Pakistan have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir.

A violent Sikh campaign for a homeland in neighbouring Punjab state has worsened. More than 1,350 people have been killed so far this year compared with 1,800 in the whole of 1989.

Another secessionist movement in the northeastern state of Assam has killed at least 90 people since January.

The wholesale price index is rising at an annualised rate of eight per cent and is even higher for sugar, tea and edible oil, staples for poorer urban Indians. Caste and communal conflict is

on the rise. Fundamentalist Hindus have vowed to begin building a temple by the end of June on the site of a 16th century mosque in Singh's home state of Uttar Pradesh — a campaign which has already triggered bloody rioting between Hindus and Muslims.

Yet Singh's popularity remains high among the 820 million people of this multi-lingual and culturally diverse country, diplomats and political analysts said.

"Singh down-market himself from the very beginning to deflate high expectations," said one Asian diplomat.

"He is quite happy to be seen as weak, vacillating, politically insecure for the time being," said political commentator Prithvi Nandiy.

"It gives him exactly the range of options he needs."

Singh himself has often said he wants the country "to move from personalised politics to issue-based politics."

In India, politics is often vitriolic. Its shifting alliances, plots and counter-plots, and theatrical gestures seem more the stuff of soap operas than the soap box.

Singh has sought to stay behind the scenes of the melodrama, trying to make an art out of not exercising power and to debunk India's reverence for personalised leadership.

"The process has started where the prime minister is not going to be equated with the nation," Singh told the respected news magazine India Today in an interview last week.

"The nation has already paid too heavy a political price for that sort of concept," said Singh, who resigned from Rajiv Gandhi's cabinet in 1987 charging government corruption.

Until December the Nehru dynasty — India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, his daughter Indira Gandhi and her son Rajiv — had ruled India for all but two years since independence from Britain in 1947.

Singh last week ordered state-run television to stop showing so many news clips about him. Earlier this year, he ordered bureaucrats not to hang his picture in their offices.

But Singh does have an image. He is popularly known by the aristocratic title of "Raja Sahib." The adopted son of a minor princely family, he distributed the family estate to poor farmers when he came of age.

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V.P. Singh

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## Mutt'n'Jeff



## Andy Capp



## Peanuts





# Education: The key to solving water problems

By Charles F. Hunter  
USIA Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — Noting that 25,000 children die every day from causes directly related to water scarcity and pollution, the chairman of the upcoming Global Water Policy and Technology summit said that information and attitudes, not ecosystem conditions, matter most in meeting the world's water needs. "The main challenge is political," Dr. Joyce R. Starr told interlocutors in Cairo and Alexandria last week during a Worldnet dialogue.

The summit, scheduled to be held in Cairo on June 24-27, will bring together decision-makers from over 40 African nations to discuss sustainability of water sources (including the Nile, Niger, and Senegal River basins, Lake Chad, and various aquifers), desalination, irrigation, and desertification. A non-profit research institute, the Global Strategy Council, is sponsoring what it terms "an ambitious attempt to galvanize international cooperation at the highest political levels."

Leon Awerbuch, who will be a summit panelist, joined Starr in USAID's Worldnet studios. Awerbuch is chairman of the International Desalination Association and manager for Desalination and Power in the Bechtel Group, Inc.

In a separate interview with USAID, Starr spoke in greater detail about concrete results she anticipates from the summit. At least four tangible signs of progress should emerge from Cairo, she said. First, there is expected to be an African Water Declaration,

signed by representatives of all nations in attendance, whose "content should be taken seriously." She pointed out that the mere fact of bringing together officials—particularly those from countries sharing a river basin—will be a second means of promoting dialogue and cooperation. A report by the Global Strategy Council to donor governments is also expected to focus attention on concerns over water.

But Starr was most excited about the fourth item on her list: the announcement of two scholarships for education of rural people in basic water technology. Rafik Hariri, a Saudi-Lebanese businessman, financed the grants, each of which will be named for important contributors to progress on water issues.

One, intended for women, will honor the late Lillian Carter, mother of former President Jimmy Carter. "Miss Lillian" travelled to many developing nations as part of her commitment to solving the daunting problems that beset them. The Carter Centre, at Emory University in Atlanta, is credited with a major role in eliminating Guinea worm from drinking water in Africa.

The identity of the other honoree will be announced in Cairo.

This move to educate Africans—women and men alike—who can in turn teach others, meshes with the Global Strategy Council's desire to see information about water penetrate "from the basic grass roots to the highest levels," with focuses "from macro to micro," Starr said.

She also indicated that some education needs to take place

in the U.S. and elsewhere.

"The problem, I think, in the West is that when we think of Africa we think of drought, and so the common assumption is that there's not much you can do about drought," she said. "But in fact Africa's problems related to water go far beyond drought ... Both the West and the developing world are suffering from severe water pollution."

During the Worldnet dialogue, Starr was quick to point out that the gathering in Egypt will not be a scientific or technical conference. "So many of those are held each year," she said. "This is a summit ... and we do hope that (those in attendance) will go much beyond the technical issues."

At the same time, she said, she agreed with a representative from the Egyptian Embassy who told her that "we should be holding the summit for the farmers of Egypt and not for the politicians." Women, as the region's water-bearers, and children must be educated about hygiene and protecting the water supply, she stated.

Starr maintained that the involvement of the media in these efforts is essential but not sufficient in itself. Low literacy rates and limited access to television and radio limit the influence the media can have. Also, the countries are not presenting a unified front as they deal with water problems. Praising the efforts of Egypt and Turkey's chief executives, she stated that "we must have leaders like President Mubarak and President Ozal ... educating their people from the highest levels of the society." Water is such a bone of

contention that it could cause an outbreak of war in approximately ten places around the world, most of them in the Middle East, according to Starr.

Political will therefore becomes extremely important in addressing the situation. With domestic and international cooperation to maximize available resources, she said, a number of African nations now suffering from water shortages could "sustain many more times" their current populations.

Even more difficult to overcome than political divisions is the force of tradition, stretching back thousands of years and necessitating what one participant called "deep psychology." Awerbuch cited the use of flood irrigation in Egypt as an example of inefficient water use that has become habitual in areas where scarcity is most critical. Re-use technology could also help matters, he added.

Another basic yet underused approach is desalination, Awerbuch said. He suggested that in countries where water is in especially short supply, desalination is a viable and accepted alternative. The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, he said, have 30 per cent of the world's desalination capabilities; what is needed is even more funding for research and development.

Pollution from pesticides is a major concern, said Awerbuch, and at present there is no proven and affordable technique to purify water of all organic compounds. Moreover, he continued, "the problem is simple: if you use the very

advanced technology, it's very expensive."

Even more than pesticide pollution, Awerbuch said, sewage needs to be regarded as the region's top water purity threat. Starr termed the Gaza Strip a "sewage time bomb waiting to explode." And once again, according to Awerbuch, advanced technology, such as the use of ozone rather than chlorine to purify water, is costly and not adaptable to all settings.

Both panelists agreed that, in this era of budget cutbacks, Washington will find itself with less money to spend on water projects abroad. Starr stated that the U.S. Agency for International Development spends

\$1.2 billion a year on water projects, more than USAID spends on any other type of project.

But she cautioned listeners against depending too heavily on USAID and large scale programmes. "I would say that over the last 20 or 30 years, the approach has been: Let's make projects happen. If there's projects, then we're solving our problems. But the problem of water is not going to be solved only ... by projects, but by better management of what we have available to us," she said.

Starr expressed hope that the U.S. and other Western nations could transfer scientific know-how, management techniques, and appropriate tech-

nologies to developing nations in Africa and elsewhere, "to maintain their water projects (and) equipment without bringing about a brain drain."

A further danger, she fears, is that developed countries may be compounding the problem by exporting "mistaken approaches." "We all have much to do," she concluded.

Calling non-governmental organizations (NGOs) the "unsung heroes of the Water Decade," Starr said that the United Nations, the agencies it sponsors, and groups like the Global Strategy Council have been the ones most responsible for seeing that the poor have water.

"No government has the

political power or the mandate to force arbitration" of tough questions over access to water, she told USAID, NGO's, on the other hand, "can do more coxing" without getting involved in political squabbles.

A total of five Global Water Policy and Technology Summits will be convened in coming years. Prince Alfred of Liechtenstein will host the Eastern European Water Assessment Forum prior to a full summit late this year, while President Turgut Ozal of Turkey will personally host the Middle East Summit in Istanbul in 1991. Future summits will concern East Asia and the Pacific region, as well as South Asia.

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## Smoking — dangerous yet 'profitable'

By Jounas Malhas  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "I smoke, despite the fact that it is a bad habit," cigarettes relax "my tension." "I do smoke because there is nothing better to do," I smoke, but I don't know why. These are some of the most-heard comments from smokers.

But, despite the awareness of the dangers inherent in puffing away packs and packs every day, concerted efforts by health authorities and others concerned, anti-smoking activists have done little to bring down the overall number of smokers around the world.

In Jordan, the situation is no different, according to many anti-smoking campaigners, who sought to bring further attention to the issue on the eve of the International Anti-Smoking Day, which was marked last week.

According to Dr. Zuhair Malhas, president of the Jordan Anti-Smoking Society, general peripheral studies indicate that male adults account for anywhere between 50 and 75 per cent of smokers in the Kingdom. The irony is that 50 per cent of all male smokers in Jordan are doctors, who are supposed to be more enlightened of the dangers of smoking than anyone else," said Malhas.

a former health minister.

Malhas, who pointed out that very little systematic study or research on smoking in Jordan has been undertaken because of lack of funds, said indications were that about 40 per cent of the female population of the Kingdom and 20 per cent of female university students were smokers.

The former minister, in an interview with the Jordan Times, said about four billion local-made cigarettes were sold in Jordan every year. No precise figure on the volume of foreign-made cigarettes is available since a good quantity is being smuggled into the country, according to officials.

"I believe that there is not enough awareness and people have not seriously taken the dangerous effects of smoking," said Malhas, who was elected chairman of a pan-Arab Anti-Smoking Council last year.

"Socially, using this drug is an accepted habit," Malhas said.

Malhas also pointed out that governments were apathetic to efforts to curb smoking because of the "tremendous amounts of revenue involved in selling tobacco products."

He cited as an example England, where the government is estimated to make about \$4 billion every year as revenue

from tobacco products. In Jordan the revenue is JD 60 million, according to Malhas.

"Another factor which stands in the way of any concerted anti-smoking action is the huge advertisement business, which is worth about \$4 billion annually around the world," Malhas said.

In 1977, the Jordanian government banned any advertisement of cigarettes in any kind of information media, but there has been little effect in terms of reduced smoking, according to Malhas.

"I feel very sorry that Radio Moote Carlo (which is widely listened to in the Arab World) everyday carries Arabic-language advertisements for cigarettes," Malhas said. He said that while such advertisements in French are banned under French law, the radio freely carries the Arabic-language ads.

"In addition, the radio also encourages youngsters to smoke by offering cash incentives for those who send 10 empty packets of a certain kind of cigarettes," Malhas complained.

"We have to find a way to fight this dangerous menace of smoking that threatens the human race," Malhas said. "We should adopt united action from doctors and government."

"Time is on our side, the developed countries are aware of this problem but only the Third World still has not taken serious steps due to the poverty and the bad economic situation," Malhas said.

"I am, for every effort that discourages and prevents people from smoking. We have to admit that the Jordanian government plays an important role," Malhas said. He urged health professionals and the government to cooperate and take serious action because "till now there is no support in action or reaction from both sides."

Malhas suggested that medical schools can participate by teaching its students the dangerous effects of smoking on health.

According to Malhas, only seven per cent of doctors smoke in the U.S. compared 50 per cent who smoke in Jordan.

"Teachers and parents are good examples, but unfortunately they frequently smoke. So how can we ask people to quit smoking when we give bad examples," Malhas asked.

"We are not asking for miracles; we are asking for discouragement of tobacco farming and trade of cigarettes, and it can't be done without proper laws," Malhas said.

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## Go and Go upsets Unbridled, posts victory in Belmont Stakes

**BELMONT, New York (R)** — Irish-bred Go and Go flew here on the cheap this week but there was nothing low-rent about his eight-length victory in the 1-1/2-mile Belmont Stakes Saturday.

Go and Go justified his name as he came down the stretch and whisked by Thirty Six Red and Baron de Vaux who had been battling each other for most of the race over the fast dirt track.

Thirty Six Red, a 7-2 choice known for his early speed, and Baron de Vaux, a 65-1 heavy longshot, exchanged lead place several times in the race and continued to battle each other up to the stretch when Go and Go ran away from them.

Thirty Six Red finished second and Baron de Vaux was third in the 122nd running of the race, the third leg of the Triple Crown series for three-year-olds.

Kentucky Derby winner Unbridled, the even-money favourite, was fourth in the nine-horse field, more than 12 lengths off the pace. Unbridled appeared ready to challenge going into the last turn, but did not have enough left and fell back.

The winner left them all behind as he headed straight for the finish — a trip that contrasted with his earlier itinerary.

Go and Go travelled for 20 hours this week just to get here. He was shipped to New York through Paris because that was the cheapest flight available.

"He went down to Shannon (Ireland) in a box, flew from Shannon to Paris because it was the cheapest way to go and he got a lift on a cargo plane to here," Go and Go trainer Dermot Weld said.

Unbridled tempered his disappointment by picking up a fair consolation prize — a million-dollar bonus for best finishes in the Triple Crown races, which also includes the Preakness.

Unbridled beat Summer Squall in the Derby, but lost to him in the Preakness. Summer Squall did not race Saturday.

Including Saturday's fourth-place finish, Unbridled has finished off the board in just two of his 13 career races.

Unbridled ran without the disquieting factor — claimed by some to reduce bleeding from the lungs. Carl Nafziger, his trainer, said after the race that Unbridled had not bled.

Go and Go, the second Irish-bred winner of the Belmont after Cavan in 1958, travelled the fast dirt track in two minutes 27 and 1/5 seconds.

Go and Go won \$411,600. Second place was worth \$150,920, third \$82,320 and fourth \$41,160.

Go and Go will be flown back home Tuesday but is scheduled to return in August for the million-dollar Travers Stakes in Saratoga.

Go and Go's jockey Michael Kinane, the Irish champion jockey since 1984, said he kept his horse under a tight rein because Go and Go appeared anxious and Kinane feared he would burn out in the early stages of the race.

"Once we turned and moved up close to the heels (of the leaders) I was travelling very sweet at that point," Kinane said. "He looked around a little bit in front, but he handled it well."

"I had hoped to sit nice and handy and tuck in close and get the lead," Kinane said, adding that Go and Go was wearing blinkers Saturday because he "didn't concentrate at all in his last race at home on the grass."

Weld said he brought his horse here Wednesday because it is best to ship a horse as close to the race as possible.

"It's to do with the climatisation. I don't know exactly (why) but that's the way it works," said Weld.

Go and Go won the Laurel Futurity in Maryland last October on dirt and the "only reason we sent him there was because it was cheap (to send him there)," said Weld, who had worked on Belmont's backstretch in the 1960s and early 1970s as a veterinarian.

"I always wanted to have a horse come back here and win the Belmont," he said.

Weld raised a few eyebrows after the race by saying Go and Go was a "very solid horse, but back home we wouldn't call him a super horse."

## Italians look ahead after win

**MARINO, Italy (AP)** — Italy's World Cup squad appeared equally relieved Sunday at having won its opening match and being able to rest four days before its second game.

After watching his squad dominate Austria in a 1-0 victory Saturday night, Italian coach Azeglio Vicini said he expected another win Thursday night in a Group A match against the United States in Rome.

"We have to see how the U.S. plays against Czechoslovakia tonight," Vicini told a news conference at the team's training centre outside Rome. "If they give a good account of themselves, then they'll have to deal with us. As things stand now, I'd certainly be disappointed with anything less than a victory against them."

Italy was considered a top contender for the World Cup and bolstered that prediction with its performance against the Austrians.

"Playing in Italy amid the fans' great expectations, we hope to go far," Vicini said. "But the resulting tension can even cause us to do worse than we otherwise could have. For now, we're just glad to have gotten two points against an adversary who played so strongly in their last few games."

Forward Salvador Schillaci, who came in as a second-half substitute and scored the lone goal Saturday, is one of Italy's few players to have competed against the American squad.

"Exactly one year ago, I was on the Juventus team that won 2-0 against the U.S. team in Los Angeles," he said. "It was my first game for Juventus, and I was glad that I managed to score in my debut."

Like his teammates, Schillaci refused to predict victory over the underdog U.S. squad. He cited Cameroon's stunning upset of defending champion Argentina in the World Cup opener as a lesson to be learned.

"Actually, the U.S. may turn out to be a more difficult opponent," said defender Riccardo Ferri.

## England manager seeks good start

**CAGLIARI (R)** — England, beaten in their opening games at both the 1986 World Cup finals and the European championship two years later, are determined to avoid a similar fate Monday.

Manager Bobby Robson, speaking at England's last press conference before the World Cup Group F clash with Ireland, said the result would be very important in setting up his team's approach to the rest of the tournament.

"We need to get a good base and we need one of two results. If we get through it and make a good start, we will be okay. But if we get an adverse result, we're up against it straightaway with the Dutch to come."

"We are not afraid of them, but we need to meet them with something in the bank. We shall be looking at two results really. But we badly want to win."

Robson said his team had visited the San'elia stadium Saturday night for a 25-minute private training session. He said the floodlights were superb but the grass on the pitch needed trimming.

Robson reported that he had no serious injury worries, but remained apprehensive about selecting central defender Mark Wright who has recovered from a ricked neck.

Robson said he had been impressed by the high standard of play seen in the tournament so far, particularly the speed of Cameroon on the break, and the "sound and very accomplished" Italians.

He again avoided discussing his selection and said he was banning all incoming telephone calls to the England squad at their hotel for 48 hours from Sunday morning.

## Czechoslovakia thrashes U.S.

**FLORENCE, Italy (AP)** — Czechoslovakia outplayed an over-matched United States team to win 5-1 Sunday in its opening Group A match of the World Cup soccer tournament.

Czechoslovakia led 2-0 halfway on goals from striker Tomas Skuhravy in the 26th minute and a 39th minute penalty from Michal Bilek.

Ivan Hasek made it 3-0 seven minutes into the second half, flicking home a corner kick with a near post header.

The United States hit back with 10 men after forward Eric Wynalda was sent off for a foul, and Paul Caligiuri reduced the deficit with a fine solo goal in the 61st minute.

But Skuhravy made it 4-1 with a header in the 79th minute and Milan Lubovy hit the fifth goal after almost three minutes of injury time.

The United States, which will host the World Cup in 1994, was making its first appearance in the tournament for 40 years. Its inexperience was obvious and its defence was under pressure for most of the game.

Czechoslovakia and the U.S. are grouped with Italy and Austria in Group A of the 24-nation tournament.

Italy beat Austria 1-0 in Rome on Saturday night.

The Czech team dominated virtually from the start of Sunday's game, played before a crowd of 33,226.

U.S. goalie Tony Meola stopped an 11th minute shot from Bilek and Miroslav Kladek fired just over the crossbar a minute later following a well-worked freekick.

Skuhravy's opening goal resulted from good work by Lubomir Moravice and poor marking. Three U.S. defenders all moved to Moravice, who crossed delicately from the edge of the penalty area. Skuhravy was completely unmarked and drove the ball low past the helpless Meola.

The Czechoslovaks created chance after chance and moved further ahead in the 40th minute. Defender Mike Windischmann fouled Ivan Hasek in the penalty area and Bilek blasted the ball past Meola on the resulting penalty.

Czechoslovakia moved further ahead six minutes after halftime when Hasek soared high over an immobile U.S. defence to head home a corner kick. Meola, who had crashed into a goalpost on the previous play, did not challenge for the ball.

The agony continued for the U.S. squad — the youngest in the championship — when Wynalda was sent off after being involved in an incident away from the ball.

## Schwantz wins Austrian motorcycling grand prix

**SALZBURG, Austria (R)** — World championship rivals Kevin Schwantz and Wayne Rainey fought a two-man duel to take the first two positions in the Austrian 500cc motorcycling grand prix Sunday.

Schwantz led from pole position on a Suzuki to claim his second successive win of the season, completing the winding Salzburg course in 88 minutes 21.304 seconds, a split second ahead of fellow-American Rainey.

Australian Michael Doohan was a mere spectator in the battle, finishing in third place on a Honda some 24 seconds behind.

Rainey, riding a Yamaha, trailed Schwantz until the 23rd lap, pulling ahead for just two laps before slipping back to second place and surrendering three points off his overall world championship lead. He now has 111 to Schwantz's 87 after six of the 15 races.

Sebwantz, victor in last month's West German grand prix, broke his own lap record on the 4.24-km alpine track, clocking one minute 18.34 seconds at an average speed of 194.97 KPH. Last year he set a record of one minute 19.15 seconds while winning the Austrian title.

Italy's Luca Cadalora, on a Yamaha, won the 250cc race, a distance of 101.88 kms, in 34 minutes 6.908 seconds ahead of West German Martin Wimmer on an Aprilia.

American John Kocinski, who was third on a Yamaha, heads the world cup standings with 92 points, 12 ahead of Cadalora.

Rain threatened to delay the start of the opening 125cc event but held off, allowing Spaniard Jorge Martinez to complete the course in 36 minutes 5.77 seconds on a Cobas-Rodax.

Martinez pulled out in front from the start and was only threatened in the final lap when Italian Loris Capirossi briefly took the lead.

## Gomez wins French Open

**PARIS (AP)** — Andres Gomez won his first grand slam singles title, and the one he wanted most, beating Andre Agassi for the French Open men's championship Sunday.

Ending 10 years of frustration on the clay courts of Paris, Gomez used a variety of tactics for a 6-3, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 victory over the flashy Agassi, who never was able to take control and let golden opportunities in the third and fourth sets slip away.

Agassi had 40-15 for a 5-4 lead in the third, but Gomez used backhand power and his opponents' errors to break for 5-4 instead and then serve out the set.

In the fourth set, after Gomez broke for a 2-1 lead and held for 3-1, Agassi held two consecutive service games at love and had a break point to tie it 4-4 on a backhand passing shot down the line.

But Gomez held serve on two service winners and an open-court backhand volley, and came back from 15-30 in the 10th game with the help of three big forehands.

The last of the forehands was on match point. It rifled past Agassi and into the corner. Gomez jumped for joy, thrusting both fists in the air.

The Ecuadorian flag waved proudly in the crowd, saluting the nation's first grand slam champion. And Gomez then held aloft the trophy he had tried for so long to take.

"I was always dreaming of this moment. It's been too long," Gomez said. "I've been wanting to win this title."

Agassi, who clashed with tennis hierarchy over his neon-bright outfits and designer subculture during the tournament, said Gomez "played great the whole week and he deserves it."

Gomez is a mild-mannered 30-year-old, a family man who immediately fetched his wife and son in the first moments of triumph.

In the 2½ hour match on a cool day he argued line calls, screamed at himself on mistakes and pumped his fists when winners came with increasing frequency late in the match.

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF  
A YAMINAH HIRSCH  
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IT'S MAGIC!

Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ K 10 7 3 2  
♥ K 8 5 3  
♦ A 6  
♣ 7 5

**EAST**  
♠ Q 8 6 5  
♥ J 9 7 6 2  
♦ Q 10  
♣ Void

**SOUTH**  
♠ A 9  
♥ A 4  
♦ K 10 9 8 7 5 3  
♣ A K

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1. ♠ Pass 1. ♠ Pass  
2. ♠ Pass 2. ♠ Pass  
3. ♠ Pass 3. ♠ Pass  
4. NT Pass 4. NT Pass  
5. NT Pass 5. NT Pass  
6. NT Pass 6. NT Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠

Anyone can win tricks with aces and kings. What makes the expert seem like a magician is the way spot cards are put to work.

South had a difficult hand to bid. The key to the auction was North's bid of four diamonds. By launching into Blackwood, then confirming that North-South held all the aces, South showed interest in a grand slam, yet settled in a small slam on

learning North held two kings. South was concerned about the trump suit and North was surely a diamond short for proceeding to a grand slam.

West's normal lead of the jack of clubs was taken in the closed hand and the play was soon over. Declarer led a low diamond from hand and, when West followed with the four, dummy's six was inserted. That won the trick when East showed out. Declarer cleared the ace of diamonds, returned to hand with a spade to cash the king of diamonds, conceded a diamond to West and claimed the small slam.

What looked like a feat of legerdemain was no more than a safety play. Had East been able to win the first diamond trick the ace and king would have cleared the suit and declarer would have claimed the rest of the tricks. And had West showed out on the first diamond declarer could again have held the enemy to one trick in the suit by rising with the ace and leading a diamond back toward the king, covering any card East might play.

## FURNISHED FLAT FOR RENT

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A qualified assistant researcher to help in "carrying out" specialised research topics in the above mentioned fields on part or full time basis/or on temporary assignments.  
Please write to P.O. Box 925809, or tel. 740543

## JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY COMPANY LTD., AMMAN - JORDAN

### TENDER INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION AND BIDDING

Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co. Ltd., announces tender invitation No. 4/90 for the supply, erection and commissioning of a skid mounted sulphur recovery unit to recover sulphur from unburned acid gas and waste water stripper unit off gas streams.

The capacity of the proposed sulphur recovery unit is about 18 tonnes of liquid sulphur per day and the project includes the accompanying facilities as well as all civil, mechanical and electrical works related to the new installation.

Contractors who possess experience in the same field and are qualified financially and technically and who wish to participate in the above tender are invited to submit their prequalification documents not later than 12.00 p.m. Saturday 14/7/1990.

Prequalification documents should include the following:-

1. Financial capability of the contractor, financial references are to be provided.
2. Technical capability of the contractor including details of experience and background of personnel, specifications of available equipment, etc.
3. Detailed documents showing similar projects executed by the contractor, full names and addresses of firms and details of projects including contract cost, and completion periods.

Results of prequalification shall be announced and advised to participants as soon as they become available.

Tenderers are requested to sign a non-disclosure agreement before receiving the tender documents.

Eligible contractors may obtain tender documents from the company's head office at First Circle, Jabal Amman against non-refundable JD (300) per set not later than 24/7/1990.

Offers should be submitted by qualified contractors to the company's head office not later than 12.00 p.m. Wednesday 17/7/1990.

Chairman

## ANNOUNCEMENT

The French Centre for Studies and Research in the Contemporary Middle East has the regret to inform its guests that the official opening ceremony of its new building which was due to be held on Tuesday the 12th of June 1990 has to be postponed to a further date.

**IMMEDIATE VACANCY**

**Hotel Jordan Inter. Continental**

SECRETARY: Female, Jordanian with excellent command of English and Arabic, typing in both languages, and knowledge of word processor preferable. Attractive salary and benefits.

Please apply in person to human resources department with written C.V. between 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WAITERS AND WAITRESSES: Preferable with good knowledge of English and experience. Please apply in person for interview to human resources department, between 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

**Invitation for Central Tender No. (35/90) for the Supply of plant and equipment for the Directorate of Maintenance and Traffic/Ministry of Public Works and Housing**

Concerned local Companies and those from Countries who are members of the World Bank, Switzerland and Taiwan (China) who are interested to participate in this tender are invited to call on the Government Tenders Directorate starting June 9th, 1990 to Collect Tenders Documents as follows:

1. Description of work- Supply of plant and equipment for road maintenance, vehicles and sign manufacturing machinery for the Directorate of Maintenance and Traffic/Ministry of Public Works and Housing, as shown in the Bills of Quantities.
2. The Price of Tender Documents is as follows:-

Item	Quantity	Price of Tender Documents/Non-refundable
A. Vibratory Roller	16	50 JD
B. Asphalt Kettle	8	25 JD
C. Jack Breaker	8	10 JD
D. Welding Machine	2	10 JD
E. Silk Screen Printer	1	25 JD
F. Sheet Metal Printer	1	15 JD
G. Small Dump Trucks	8	50 JD
H. Falling Weight Deflectometer	1	25 JD
N. Transport Trailers	8	10 JD
K. Guard Rail	1	24 JD
L. Sign Corners Cutter	1	10 JD

3. Last date for purchase of Tenders Documents is June 28th, 1990.
4. Tenders Shall be Submitted to the Government Tenders Directorate not later than 1:30 P.M. on Wed. July 25th, 1990.

**Chairman, Central Tenders Committee**  
Director General of Government Tenders Directorate  
Eng. Salim Qdah.

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625155

**COCKTAIL**

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420

**CRAZY LEGS**

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PHILADELPHIA** Tel: 634144

**SECRET PLACES**

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **NUJUM** Tel: 675571

Najla Fathi, Farouq Al Fishawi and Waheed Self in  
**THE THIEF**

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30  
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 699238

Tom Cruise... in  
**"LOSIN IT"**

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 10:30



# U.S. jet begins evacuation of Americans from Liberia

MONROVIA (AP) — A U.S.-chartered jet began evacuating Americans from this war-shattered West African nation Sunday, a day after the government and rebels agreed to begin peace talks without an official ceasefire.

"We'll probably lose everything, everything, to looters," said Caroline Jackson, who was returning to Atlanta with her husband, a diamond miner who was still wearing his blue hard hat.

The evacuation began Sunday morning with the departure of a jet carrying 120 people. Two other evacuation flights were scheduled.

The United States chartered an Air Guinea Boeing 737 to carry evacuating Americans from Monrovia to Abidjan, capital of neighbouring Ivory Coast. There the Americans were to board a Jumbo Jet chartered to fly them to Charleston, South Carolina.

Most of the more than 300 Americans likely to take one of the three flights were women or children. Many were Liberians holding U.S. passports, and roughly a third of those leaving were escorted assigned to aid children on the flights.

More than 1,000 Americans were expected to remain in the West African country. An estimated 6,000 lived in Liberia before it was engulfed in a tribal war. Several thousand left as the 5-month-old war intensified.

The first negotiations between President Samuel Doe's government and rebels led by Charles Taylor were to begin Monday at the U.S. embassy in Freetown, Sierra Leone, Liberia's western neighbour.

Though the rebels have refused to accept a church call for a ceasefire, their decision to send a delegation to the Freetown marks a major change in their position. They had been demanding Doe leave Liberia before they would begin talks.

The rebels accuse Doe's administration of corruption, economic mismanagement and human rights abuses. Doe seized power in a bloody coup in 1980.

More than 1,000 people, mostly

civilians, have died since Taylor began his insurgency Dec. 24.

No major fighting had been reported since Friday, when the government recaptured a rubber plantation 40 kilometres southwest of the capital. But the rebels maintained control of most of the nation of 2.5 million.

Neither side in the war has threatened Americans, and many who live in rural areas have decided to stay. Liberia, founded by freed American slaves, has very close relations with the United States.

The United States sent four warships, carrying 2,100 Marines, to the Liberian coast in case an emergency evacuation was necessary. Britain also sent two frigates.

The Americans boarded the jet at Monrovia's small city airport. The international airport has been closed for more than a week because of fighting between rebels and government forces.

"It is better if she leaves. If I have to run for my life I can't run with her," said Rosalind Towse as she put her 3-year-old daughter, Zanywea, on the plane.

Deputy Information Minister Moses Washington said the initial

aim of the negotiations would be to negotiate a ceasefire and the Liberian News Agency (LINA) said the Liberian Council of Churches would act as mediator.

Washington said the government had been told by the Council of Churches that the rebels, who are within 56 kilometres of Monrovia, had agreed to talks "without preconditions."

Taylor was in the port of Buchanan, 120 kilometres southeast of Monrovia, where he told journalists of his willingness to negotiate, according to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

In Vatican City, Pope John Paul appealed Sunday for peace in Liberia.

The Pope asked pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square to "implore God to bring peace to Liberia which has been suffering a bloody civil war since last December."

He said the fighting had intensified over the past few days and left large numbers of dead and wounded.

He appealed for prayers for "all sides to end their fighting and lay down their arms and for the advent of harmony and serenity in that dear African nation."



Liberian rebels hold a frontline position

## Violence in Bhutto's province raises fears of martial law

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Gang violence in Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's home province has taken 400 lives in a month, and many Pakistanis fear it endangers their country's brief experiment with democracy.

Bhutto, who campaigned for a decade to free Pakistan from military rule, has been forced to call out the army in Sind, her native province in southern Pakistan.

No one knows who is killing whom. Private armies, drug gangs and ethnic militias operate at will. Kidnappings, indiscriminate shootings and armed robbery are commonplace.

Critics and supporters agree a lasting solution depends on Bhutto's ability to make peace with an ethnic political movement that ended British colonial rule of the subcontinent and made two nations.

Most of the Mohajirs settled in Karachi and Hyderabad, the two largest cities of Sind province.

"us," a government official said on condition of anonymity.

"She has to stop playing party politics. She has to stop acting merely as the leader of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and start being the prime minister of Pakistan. If she can't, she'll be lucky to last six months."

If Bhutto fails, observers say, more than her 18-month-old civilian government will be in danger.

Pakistan has spent more than half its 43 years under military rule and concern is growing that the army will feel it necessary to take over again.

At centre stage in the bloody drama are the Mohajirs, Muslim Indians who moved into Pakistan during the 1947 partition that ended British colonial rule of the subcontinent and made two nations.

Most of the Mohajirs settled in Karachi and Hyderabad, the two largest cities of Sind province.

They were poor and landless, but well-educated, and soon got the best jobs.

Although they make up only 6 per cent of Sind's 20 million people, they dominate the cities and control the labour unions of the highly industrialised region.

Native Sindhis were increasingly shut out politically and economically, and their resentment led to street fighting.

Violence increased in the early 1980s because of the "Kashmiri" and heroin culture, a reference to the automatic rifles that entered the country during the war in Afghanistan and the growth of the drug trade.

On May 27, now called "black Sunday," police tried to flush out Mohajir militants holed up in the old walled section of Hyderabad. The operation turned into a bloodbath that cost 180 lives and set off a five-day wave of terror in Karachi that took nearly 200 more.

## Kennedys, Cuomos joined by marriage

WASHINGTON (R) — Two of America's most powerful political families, the Kennedys and the Cuomos, were joined by marriage Saturday. Kerry Kennedy, 30, daughter of assassinated senator and presidential candidate Robert Kennedy, exchanged vows with Andrew Cuomo, 32, son of New York Governor Mario Cuomo, one of the Democratic Party's best-known figures nationally. The private ceremony was held at St. Matthews Cathedral, the church where the funeral for the bride's uncle, President John Kennedy, was held almost 27 years ago. Limousines clogged the streets a half mile from the White House as Democratic Party leaders and celebrities in morning suits joined the 300 friends and family members for the nuptials. Attending were Senator Edward Kennedy and the bride's brother, representative Joseph Kennedy Jr., both of Massachusetts, the slain president's widow, Jacqueline Onassis, and New York Mayor David Dinkins. The couple, both law school graduates, were engaged on Valentine's Day and plan to spend their honeymoon in the Caribbean before settling in New York City.

## Movie on KAL blast opens to public

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The 1987 mid-air bombing of a South Korean airliner by alleged North Korean agents is creating a new controversy as a feature film depicting the tragic incident was shown to the general viewers. The \$2 million film, titled "Virgin Terrorist" in English and "Mayumi" in Korean, was shown at a downtown Seoul movie house, following a highly publicised premiere attended by 1,200 people, including six cabinet ministers. About 1,500 people saw the movie on the opening day, paying 4,000 won (\$5.70) each, publicists said. Supporters and fans praised the movie, made by a maverick South Korean filmmaker once abducted to North Korea, as "an artistic coup." Critics called it "cheap anti-Communist propaganda." "We have strong doubts about a plan by our company to sign a 100 million won (\$142,000) contract to show the cheap anti-Communist movie," said Lee Woo-Ho, a leader of the Moonhwa Broadcasting Co. the nation's second-largest television network. Lee said his union will fight to block the contract. The movie, directed by Shin Sang-ok, is a documentary-style film featuring a self-confessed North Korean female agent who, along with a male companion, bombed a South Korean plane near Burma, killing all 115 people on board.

## Wanted: Layabouts to simulate space travel

THE WOODLANDS, Texas (AP) — Help wanted. Baylor College of Medicine seeks 16 good sleepers to spend a month lying down. Salary is uncertain, but benefits include breakfast in bed — lunch and dinner, too. It sounds like a lazy person's dream, but there's a catch to the deal being offered by researchers David Cardus and Wesley McTaggart. When they say the sleepers will be confined to bed, they're not kidding. The people they select won't be allowed to get up for the entire month, and they'll spend part of their time spinning around in a space-age sleep chamber that looks like something straight out of a science-fiction movie.

## Empire State to honour gays

NEW YORK (AP) — The top 30 floors of the Empire State building will be lit with lavender lights in honour of gay pride weekend later this month. The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) said it has lobbied the management of the 102-story-tall building for the past six years to have the landmark building illuminated in honour of their cause. "Everybody is going to look up that weekend (June 22-24), gay and straight, and they will see that New York City is recognising the existence of the gay and lesbian community," said Tom Lynne, a member of GLAAD. Owners and managers of the building issued a statement on the decision: "We are in total agreement with... leaders who seek to end the bigotry and discrimination directed against gay and lesbian New Yorkers. We hope our participating will help end the type of ignorance that breeds this mindless prejudice."

## Kirghizia mass rally cancelled

MOSCOW (R) — A mass rally planned for Sunday in the capital of Soviet Kirghizia, swept by a week of bloody ethnic violence, has been cancelled, a local television journalist said.

"The people decided yesterday not to hold the meeting," he said, adding that the capital, Frunze, is debating to give further details.

More than 100 people have been killed in fighting between Uzbeks and Kirghizians which started in the town of Osh last Monday after an argument over land allocation.

A state of emergency was declared in Frunze Thursday after demonstrators threw stones at Communist Party leaders and demanded the resignation of the republic's leadership within three days. The ultimatum runs out later Sunday.

Another local television journalist said Frunze and Osh were returning to normal. On Saturday Moscow Radio reported that militants in the Osh region had fired on troops and attacked trucks as tensions mounted further.

The Soviet Interior Ministry and officials in Osh Sunday de-

clined to give details of the latest developments.

The violence, some of the worst to hit the troubled Soviet Central Asian region over the last two years, seems to have grown into a dispute over wider issues, with gunmen attacking both private citizens and targets associated with officialdom.

The army daily Krasnaya Zvezda Sunday said groups of people dressed in police uniforms were firing at local citizens in Osh for no apparent reason. It suggested criminals wearing stolen uniforms were responsible.

The paper also accused Soviet and local party authorities of doing nothing to promote trust between Kirghiz and Uzbeks.

Local Communist Party officials Saturday issued a fresh appeal for calm as the death toll — put by the Kirghiz Interior Ministry at 107 — continued to climb.

The border between Kirghizia and Uzbekistan has been sealed to stop Uzbeks reaching Osh to help their kinsmen. The Uzbek president said Thursday that the violence was spilling over into his republic and asked Moscow to intervene to prevent it becoming a full-scale conflict.

In a separate development Boris Yeltsin has staked out his territory as new Russian president, offering an alternative to the Kremlin's tough economic reform package and threatening to take his case to the people if conservatives block it.

Yeltsin, calm and confident, said his plan for moving towards a market economy differed from that of Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov because it did not place the burden on the backs of hard-pressed workers.

"By using different economic levers we can ensure that people's standards of living do not fall and indeed should rise in time," he said in a television interview Saturday.

"If there is ever a critical point where understanding cannot be reached, then I will go to the people. I will go to the electorate."

Yeltsin also asked coal miners who have been threatening to strike to show restraint.

Though his economic programme has not been published, reformist economists advising Yeltsin have called for a mass sell-off of state assets instead of the government's proposed steep price increases on food and other goods.

## Bomb at London army HQ injures 17

LONDON (Agencies) — A British anti-terrorist police chief said Sunday he believed Irish guerrillas planted a bomb which exploded at a British army unit Saturday night injuring 17 young people.

Detective Chief Superintendent Derek Willison told a news conference the explosion, which ripped through the roof of the central London headquarters of the British oldest army unit, had "all the hallmarks of the IRA."

"It is another indiscriminate wanton terrorist attack," he said. The blast came soon after a series of attacks on army installations and personnel in Britain and continental Europe by the Irish Republican Army (IRA), which wants to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

No one has admitted responsibility for the explosion at the central London headquarters of the honourable artillery company, which dates back hundreds of years.

The building, which is also used as the headquarters of Britain's part-time territorial army, is often used for private parties.

The blast showered glass and debris on party-goers attending a 21st birthday party.

Guests, all civilians, fled from the building, some drenched in blood from lacerations. Most of the injured were treated in hospital and no one is believed to have been seriously hurt.

"I was standing at the bar getting some drinks when there was an explosion and a flash of light," 21-year-old guest Angus Gray said.

He said some people began screaming after the blast but most remained calm.

## East Germany predicts Warsaw Pact military breakup this year

WEST BERLIN (AP) — East Germany's defence minister has predicted the breakup of the Warsaw Pact's military structures this year, a newspaper said Saturday.

The prediction from Rainer Eppelmann is one of the most radical statements to date from a member of the Soviet-led military alliance.

During a meeting in Moscow Thursday, the Warsaw Pact members issued a declaration designed to reduce Moscow's influence over the alliance.

In other developments Saturday:

— Experts from the United States, the Soviet Union, France and Britain met in East Berlin

with their counterparts from the two German states. The delegates from the six nations are preparing the second round of top-level German negotiations, scheduled for June 22 in the East German capital.

— West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl returned from a visit to the United States, after expressing confidence that international talks on German unification can be wrapped up by the autumn.

Those talks have become snagged on the question of the military status of a united Germany, but Western leaders are hoping for a change in the Kremlin's stance against NATO membership for the joined countries.

At the same time, the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact is facing massive changes, now that the countries that once unfailingly followed the Soviet line are showing greater independence.

Czechoslovakia and Hungary, for example, have secured promises of the pullout of large numbers of Soviet troops.

Eppelmann, in an interview with West Berlin's Morgenpost daily newspaper Saturday, painted an extremely bleak picture for the Warsaw Pact.

In this year, the complete military structures of the Warsaw Pact will be abolished, including the joint supreme command," the newspaper quoted Eppelmann as saying.

## Burmese still face horror of jail, torture or disappearance

RANGOON (R) — The smartly dressed Burmese woman ignored the monsoon rain bouncing off the thatched roof into her hair and wrung her hands in despair. Soldiers with guns took her husband, an election candidate, in the early hours of the eve of the poll and she has had no news of him since.

"I feel so helpless and insecure. I haven't heard anything," the 50-year-old former university lecturer said.

Burma, one of Asia's poorest and most secretive countries, is still locked in the twilight world of army rule despite the opposition's overwhelming victory in last month's elections.

As opposition leaders manoeuvre for a peaceful transfer of power, the horror of two years or passive resistance to military control remains.

The jails are still full of political prisoners. A six-hour curfew is still in force. Citizens are still hauled in for questioning. Student groups are still compiling lists of more than 1,000 comrades

who died or disappeared during the army's brutal crushing of protest in 1988.

Added to the daily drudge of scratching an income, every civilian must live in fear of being snatched from home, video-parlour or tea-shop by the military.

In late April up to 1,000 youths were rounded up in board daylight in eastern Shan state and shipped off as army porters to insurgent zones in Kayah state, a diplomat said.

Burmese themselves recount experiences of arbitrary detention, beating and torture. Relatives say family members have simply disappeared.

Human-rights groups and diplomats say thousands of dissidents are still in jail. Some have been sentenced for up to 20 years or death, others have not been charged.

Their alleged crimes range from "endangering the state" to duplicating photographs of opposition heroine Aung San Suu Kyi, herself under house arrest

for the past 11 months.

Visitors and former inmates of Insein Jail, Burma's largest and most feared prison, say it is packed with leaders, members, candidates and supporters of the election winners, the National League for Democracy.

One recent visitor said there were more than 1,000 political prisoners in the jail. The visitor, who asked not to be identified, said they included five senior Democracy League members including party Chairman Tin Oo, sentenced last December to three years hard labour.

While prominent dissidents are spared physical maltreatment, students and other inmates say they themselves were tortured as a matter of routine. They say some victims died.

Kyat Koe, 20, a student from Rangoon's Dagon township, said on his first day in prison he was blindfolded and beaten by several people. The next day they used a candle to burn his genitals and pressed lit cigarettes against his inner thigh.

## Mistrust of Moscow eases in South East Asia

JAKARTA (AP) — When the Soviet airline Aeroflot resumes service to Indonesia next month, it will be the latest milestone in improved relations between Moscow and South East Asian nations.

Flights between Moscow and Jakarta were stopped in 1982 after two Soviet diplomats and the head of the local Aeroflot office were expelled on espionage charges.

Soviet relations with much of the region were equally sour in those days.

Malaysia ousted three Soviet diplomats in 1981 after they were accused of espionage. A year later, Singapore expelled a Soviet diplomat and a shipyard technician as spies.

Soviet warships and planes ranged from old U.S. bases in Vietnam and Moscow's military aid sustained Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia.

Nor did it help that Soviet troops were fighting in Afghanistan and posted along the border with China. And relations with Japan were strained because the Soviets still held onto the Kurile Islands which they took late in World War II.

Suspensions remained ever after a July 1986 speech by President Mikhail Gorbachev in Vladivostok in which he promised that the Kremlin would mend its ways in the region.

The reaction from then In-

donesian Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumatadja was typical: "It is a good beginning but there is a long way to go."

Events since have swept away old perceptions of the Soviet Union.

In announcing a policy shift last month, Malaysian Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar told the International Affairs Forum in Kuala Lumpur that Gorbachev's reforms turned Moscow's presence in the region from "offensive" to not particularly threatening.

Withdrawal from Afghanistan and diplomatic efforts to solve the Cambodian conflict encouraged some. The promise that the Soviet military presence in Vietnam would be wound down was particularly welcomed.

The Soviet Union's most recent rapprochement with an Asian country came early this week when Gorbachev met with South Korean President Roh Tae-woo in San Francisco.

Afterwards, Roh told reporters the two countries would establish diplomatic ties, but Gorbachev was vague on the matter.

"The Soviets are already in the process of unilaterally drawing down their offensive capabilities in Danang and Can Ranh Bay," Abu Hassan said.

"My assessment is that the Soviet Union will now be more inward looking and will require a

peaceful and stable international environment to pursue reform and economic development at home," he said.

Diplomatic analysts said most of the change of perception came in the last six months, as Gorbachev did not intervene while Communist regimes fell in Eastern Europe.

While the political image of the Soviet Union has improved dramatically, its quest for greater trade and investment has been less successful.

Japan and the United States dominate commerce in the Pacific basin. The Soviets also have to overcome perceptions that their manufactured goods and services are shoddy and payments are slow.

The Soviet Union's application to join the United States, Japan, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the European Community as a "dialogue partner" with ASEAN was rejected last year.

ASEAN, the Association of South East Asian Nations, links Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand to promote regional economic cooperation.

ASEAN officials said Moscow was told to reapply later when its economic presence in the region was stronger. The same response was given to a Soviet request to take part in the new and larger Asia-Pacific Economic Coopera-

tion Forum.

"We look forward to the Soviet Union participating in the rapid growth of this region," said Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, a stalwart anti-Communist.

Western diplomats say that within ASEAN, the Soviet Union has set its sights on developing the closest ties with President Suharto's rigorously anti-Communist administration in Jakarta.

With a population of 178 million, Indonesia offers a huge but relatively unexploited market.

In some ways, this marks a return to policies of the 1950s and 1960s under Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, when Indonesia and not Vietnam was considered the key to the region.

Suharto paid what is regarded in Jakarta as a highly successful visit to Moscow last September. Since then, Indonesian ports have been reopened to Soviet shipping and restrictions eased on entry by Soviet citizens.

Mirza Olim Ibragimov, president of the Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan, was the highest ranking Soviet official to visit Jakarta in 25 years when he visited in January.

Now travel to the area for Soviets will be easier. With the espionage in the past, Aeroflot executives are looking for office space and getting ready to resume the 12-hour flight from Moscow to Jakarta

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